

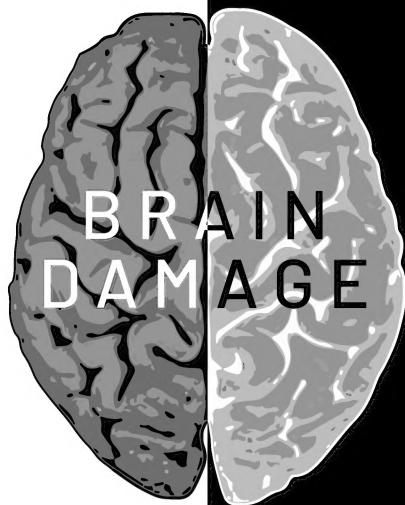
BRAIN DAMAGE

ブレインダメージ

SHINTARO KAGO

駕籠真太郎





ブレインダメージ

SHINTARO KAGO

駕籠真太郎

TRANSLATION BY
ZACK DAVISSON

FANTAGRAPHICS
ファンタグラフィックス



SEATTLE
シアトル

BRAIN DAMAGE
ブレインダメージ
CONTENTS



LABYRINTH
QUARTET
P003



CURSE ROOM
P039



FAMILY
PORTRAIT
P079

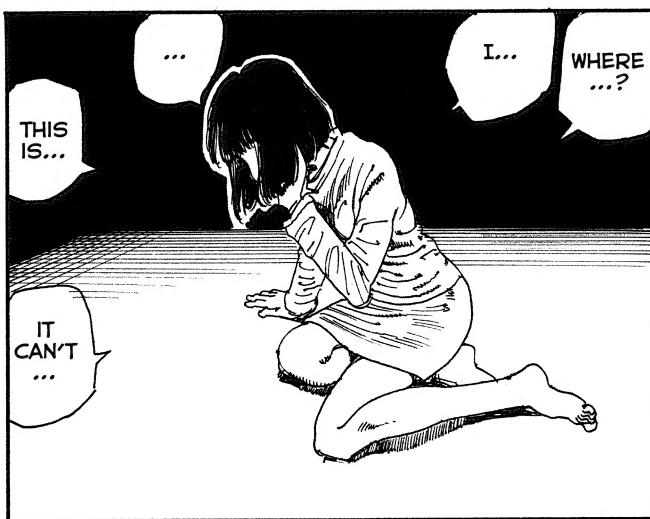
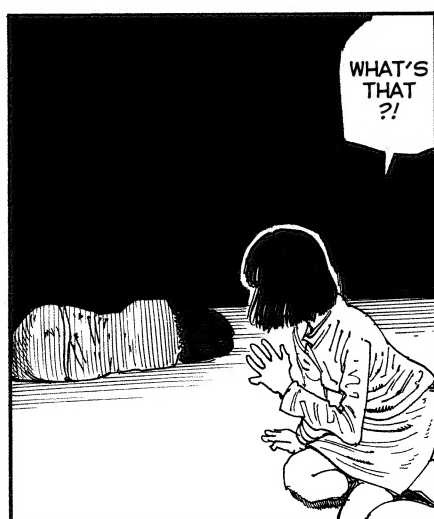
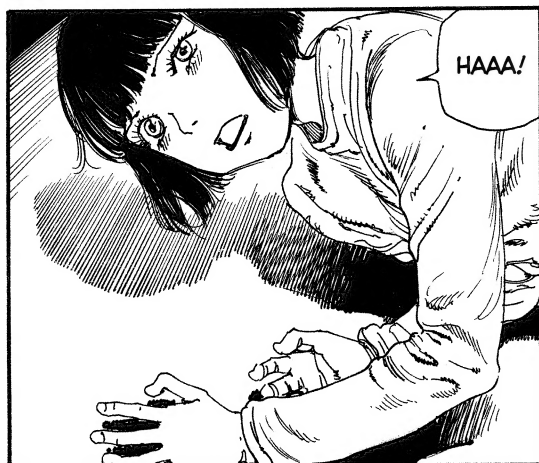


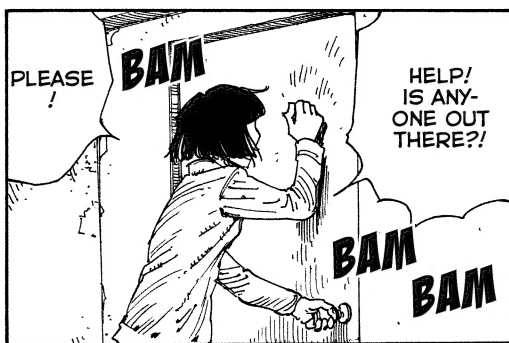
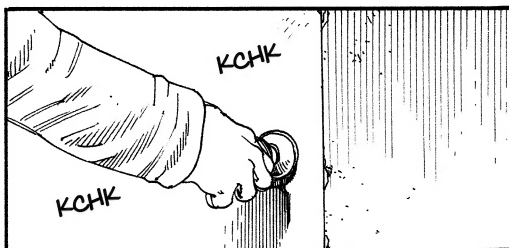
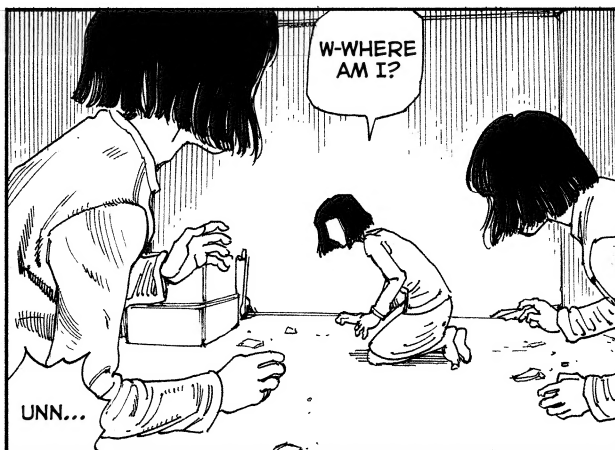
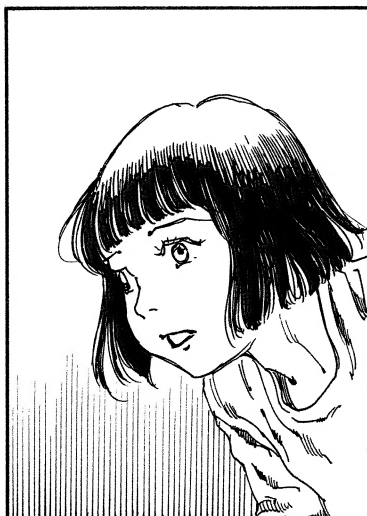
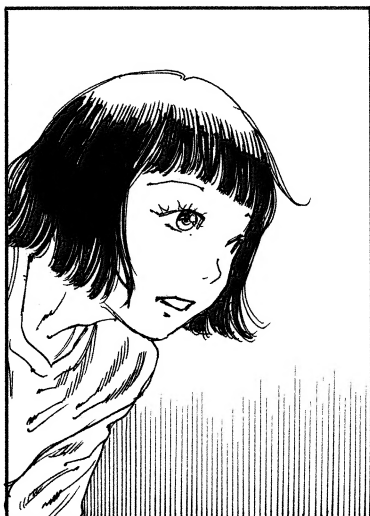
BLOOD HARVEST
P121

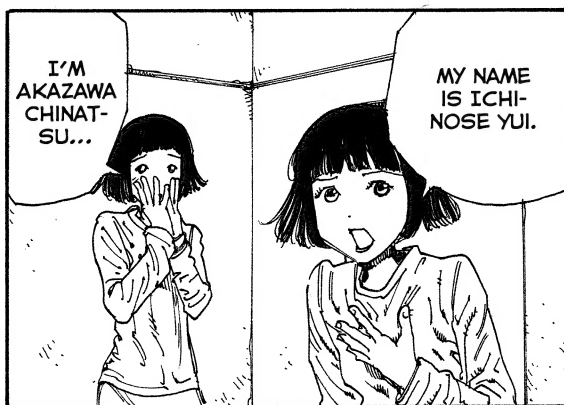
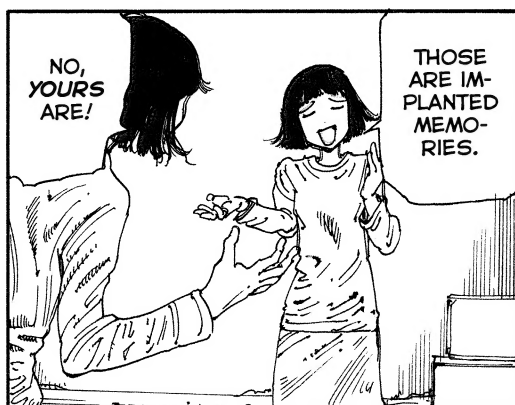
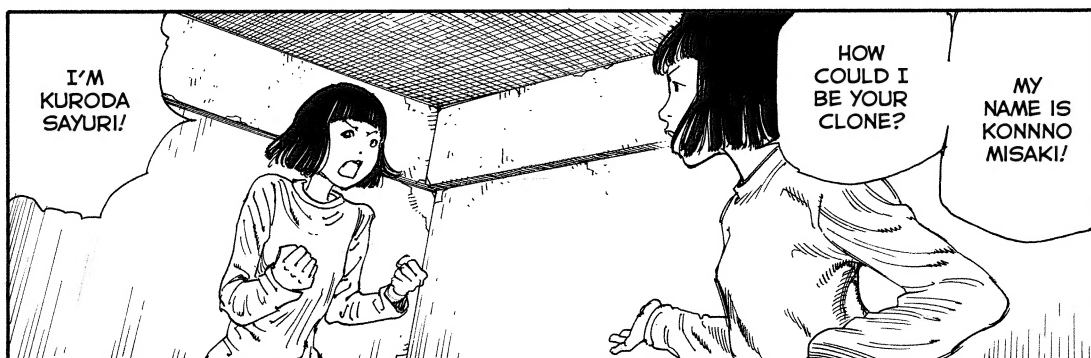
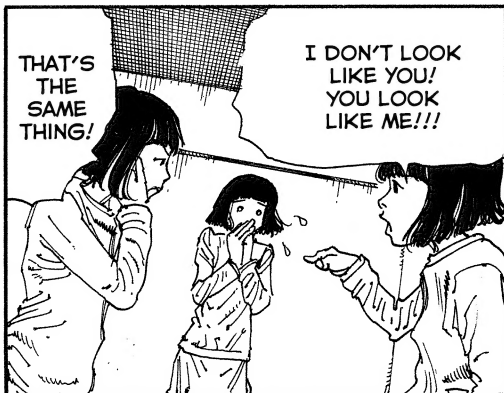
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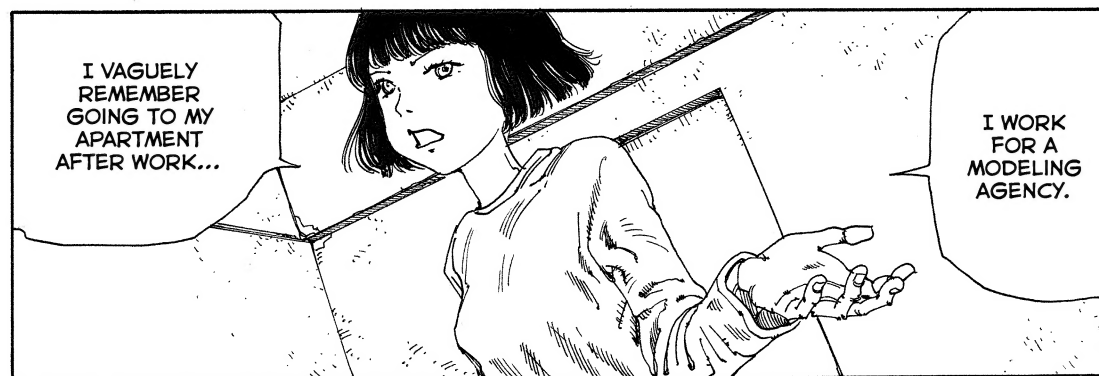
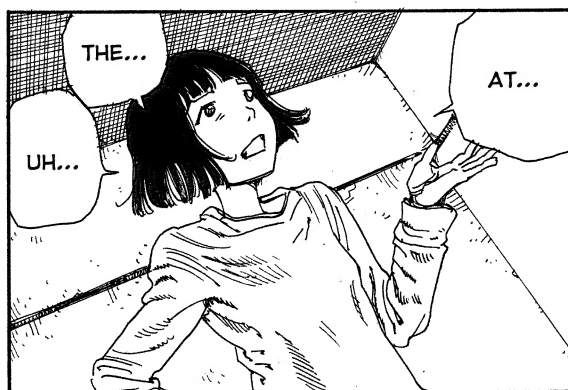
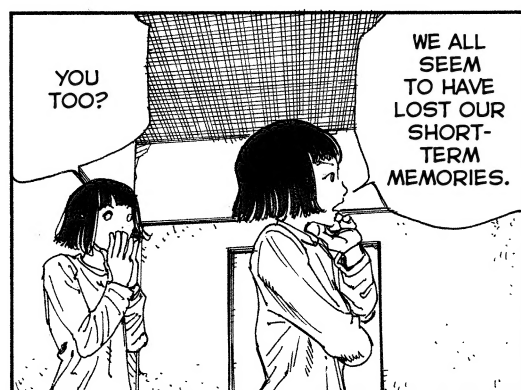
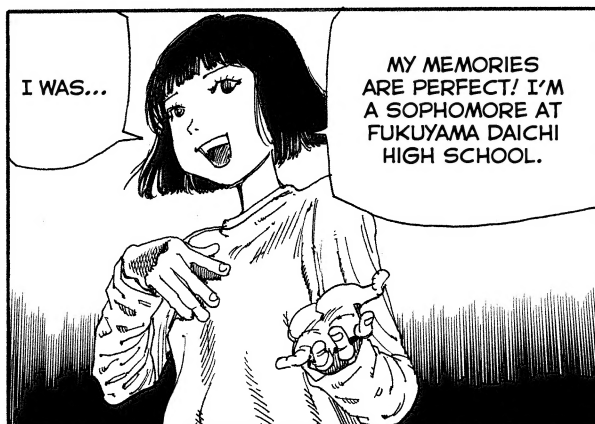
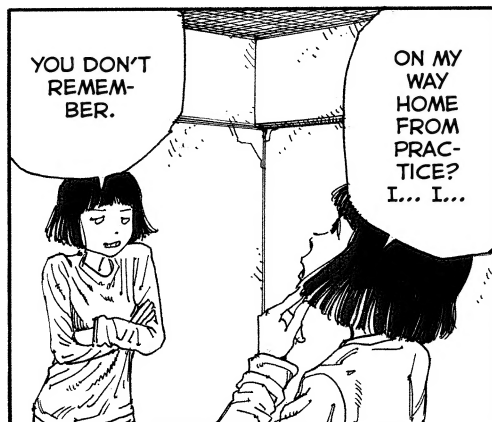


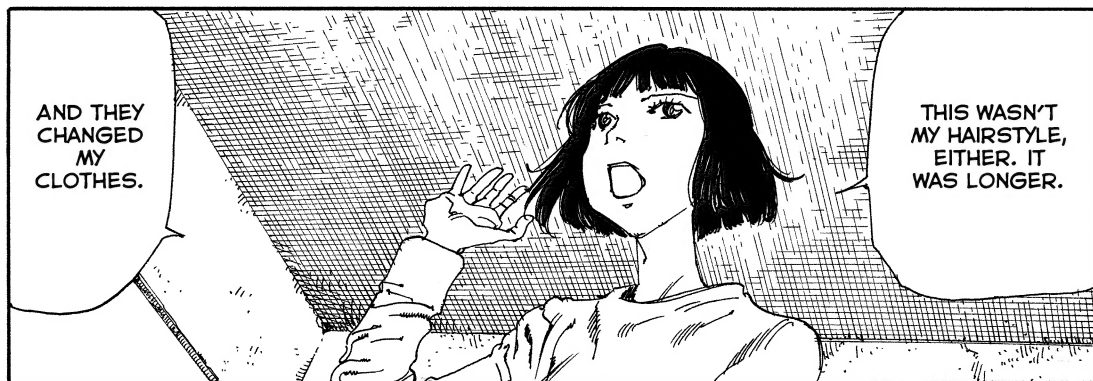
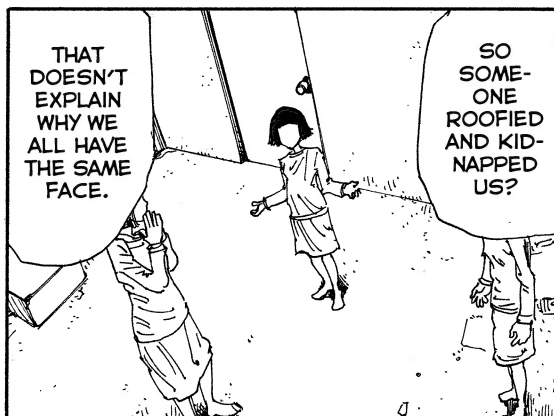
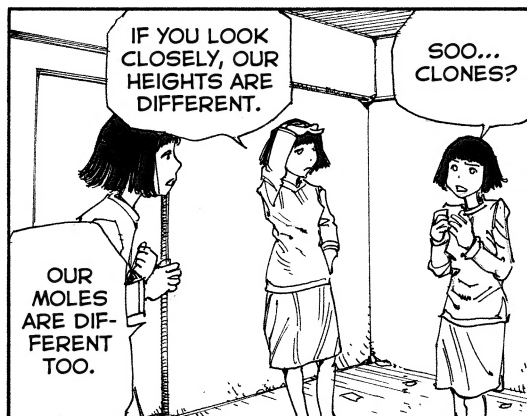
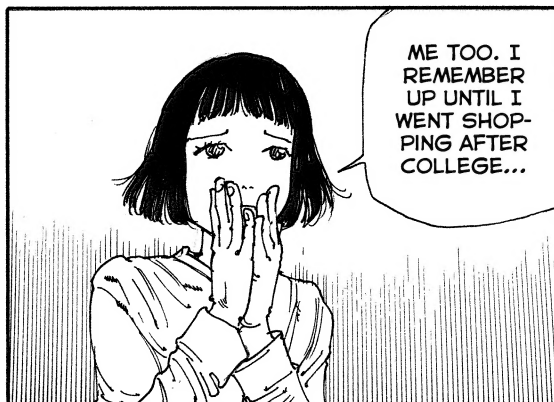
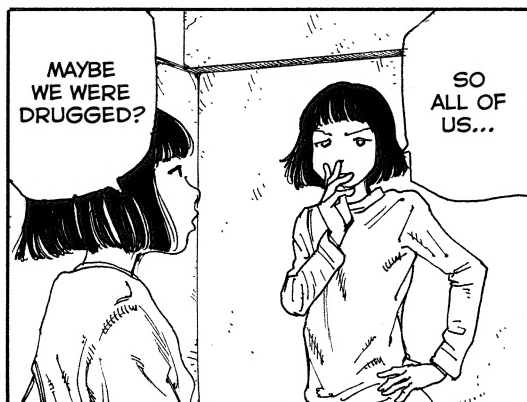
L A B Y R I N T H Q U A R T E T

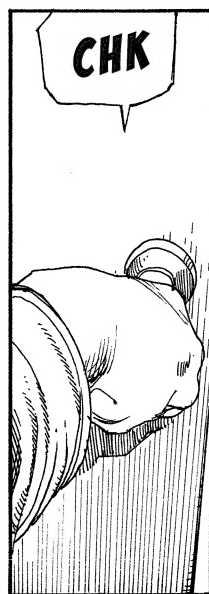
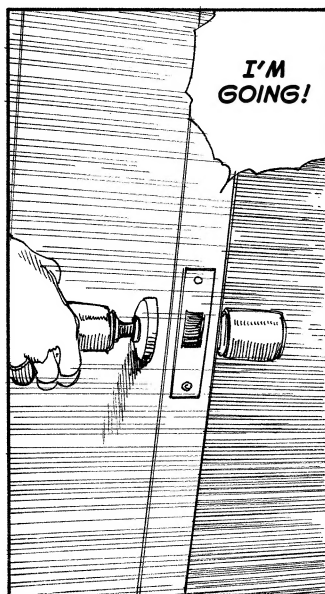
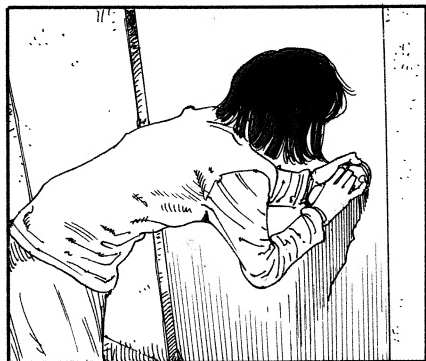
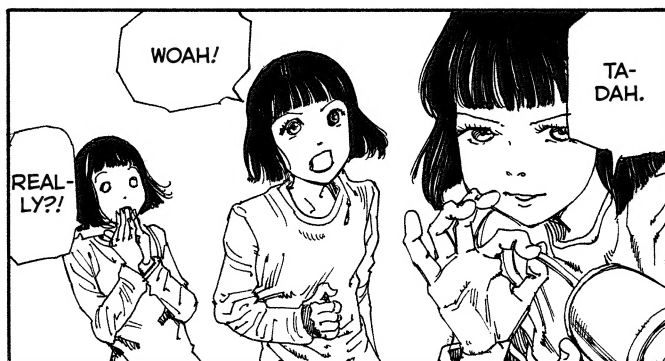
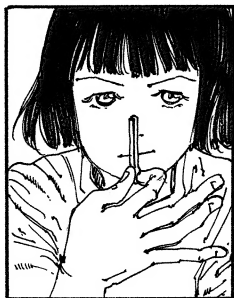


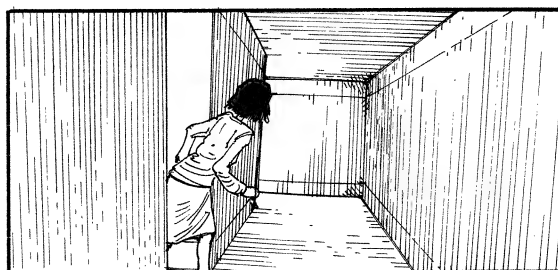
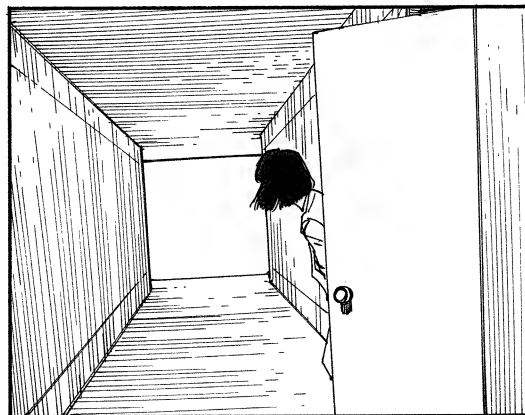
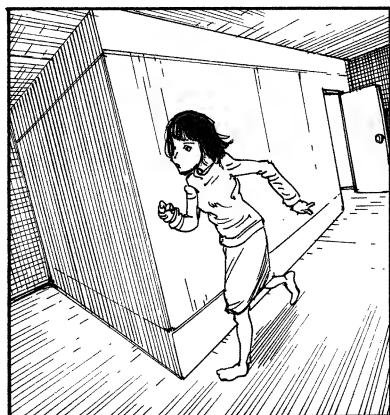
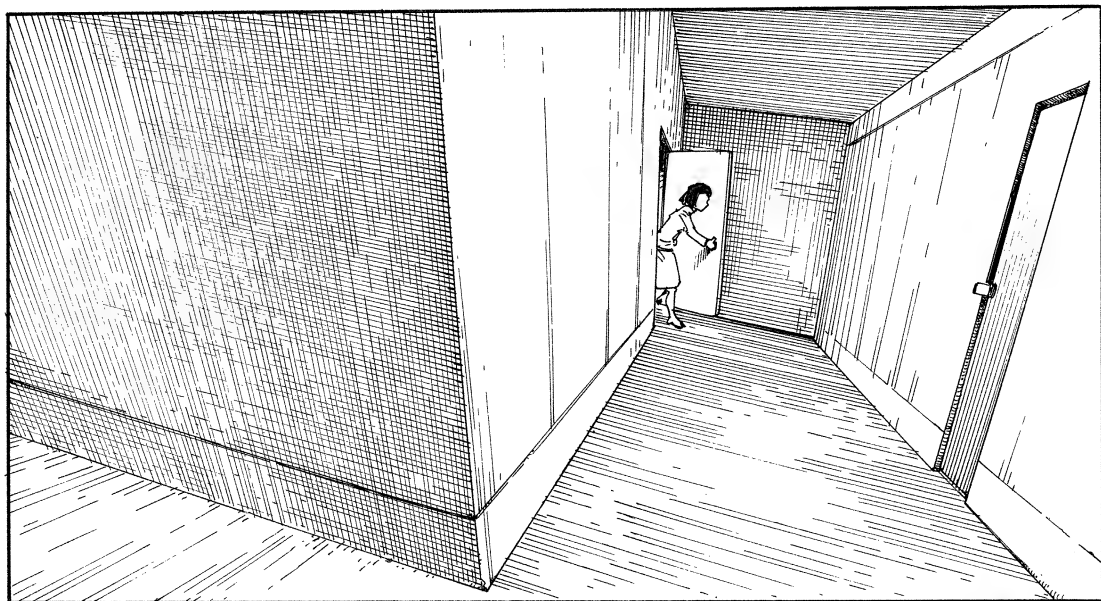


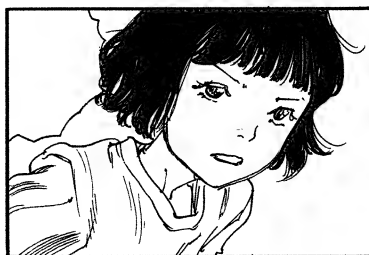
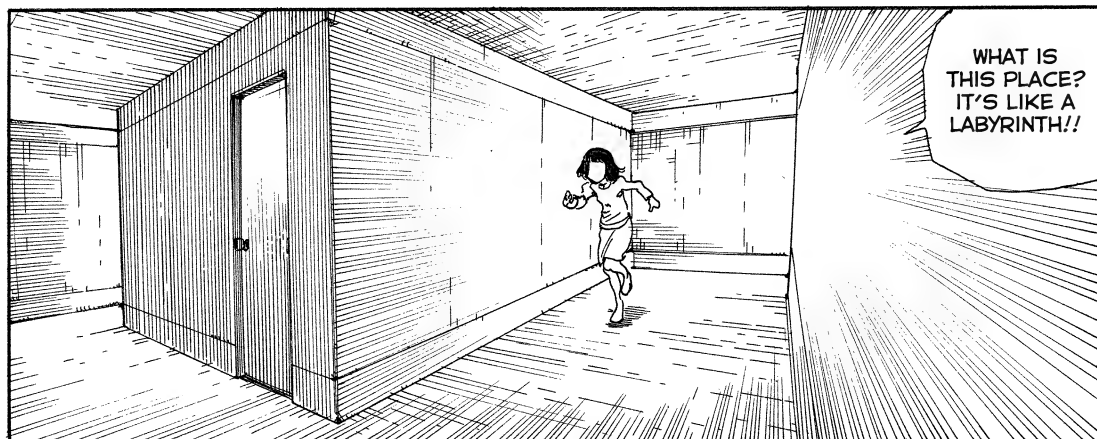




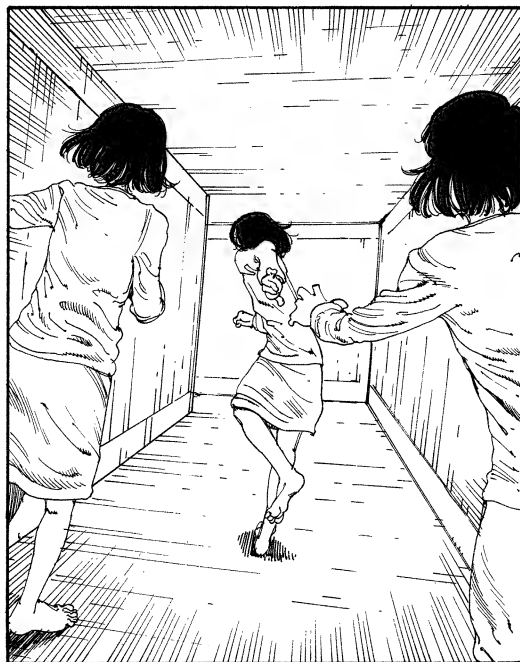
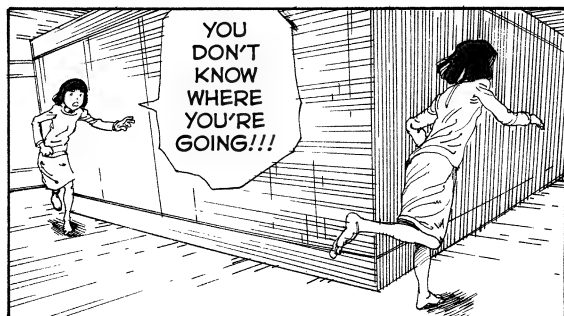
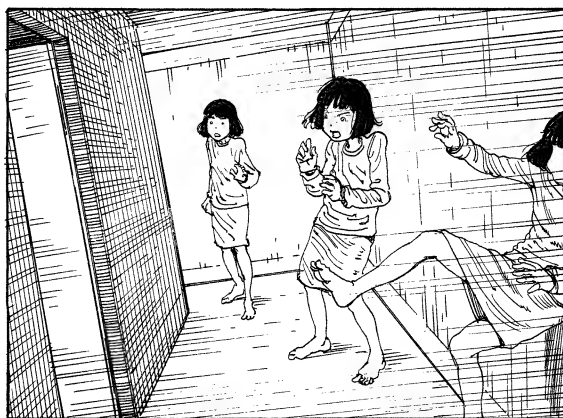


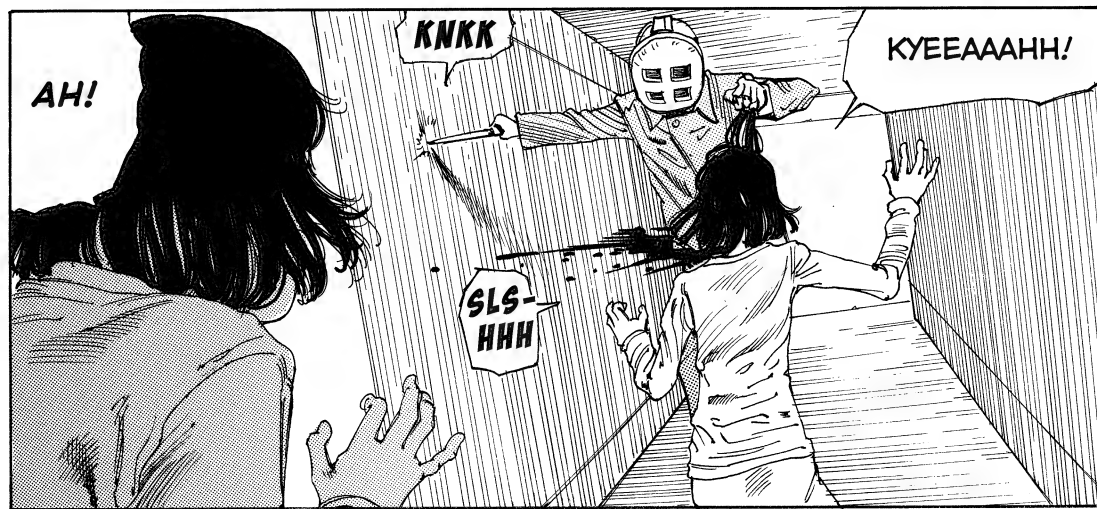
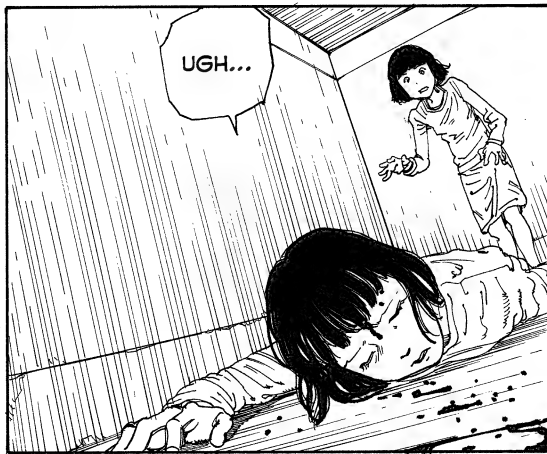
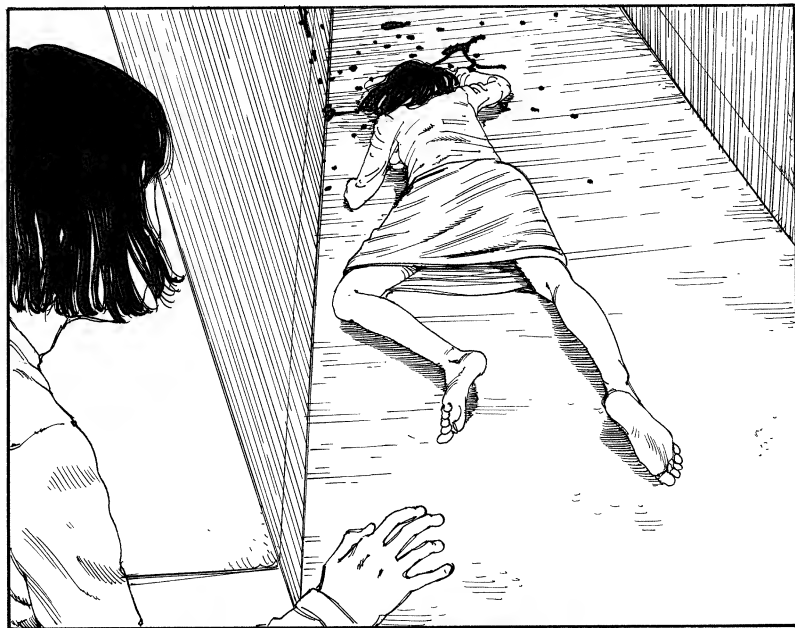


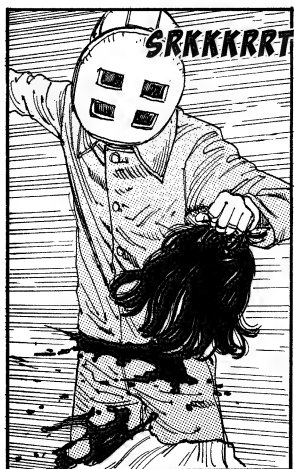
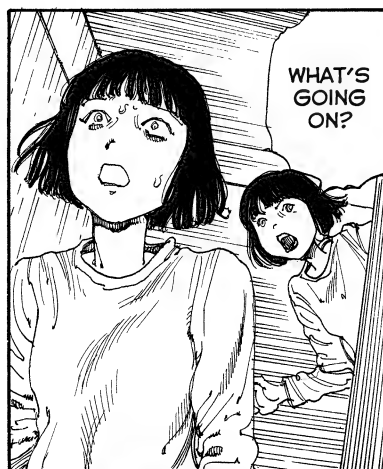


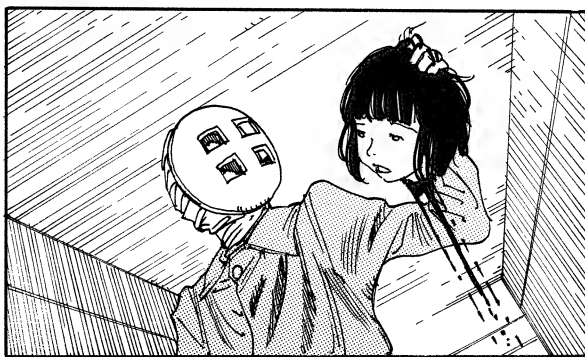
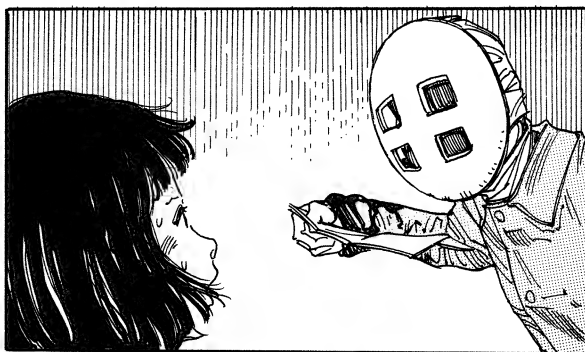
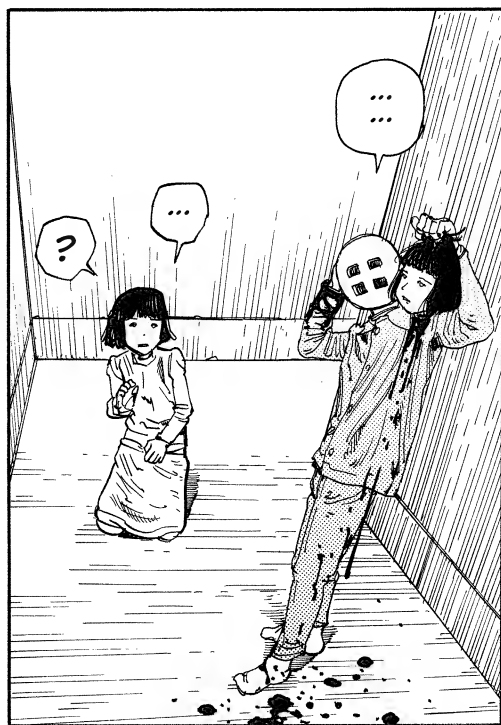
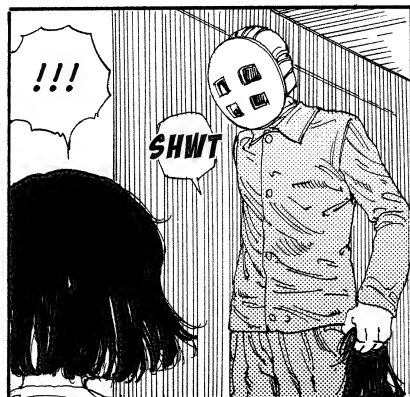
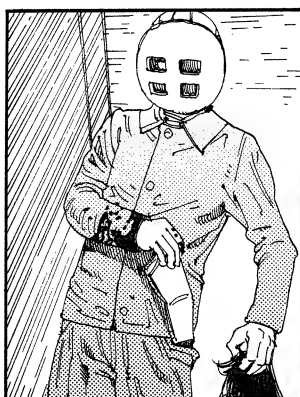
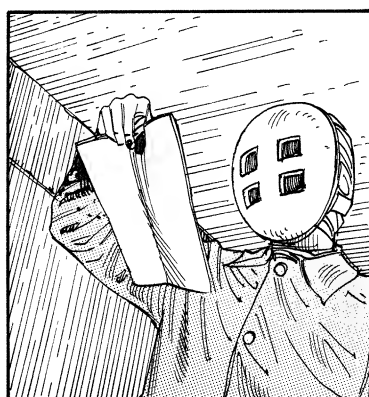
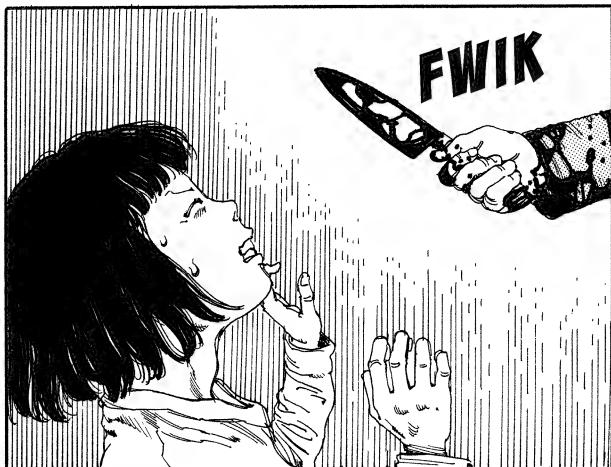
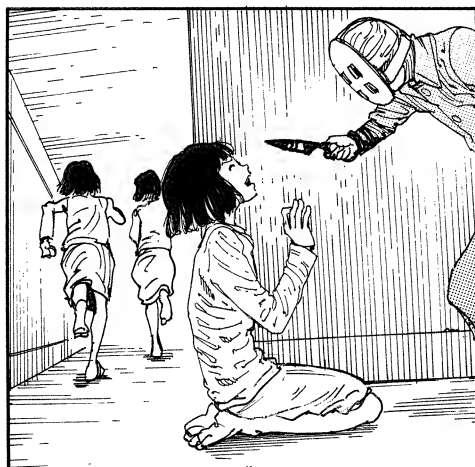


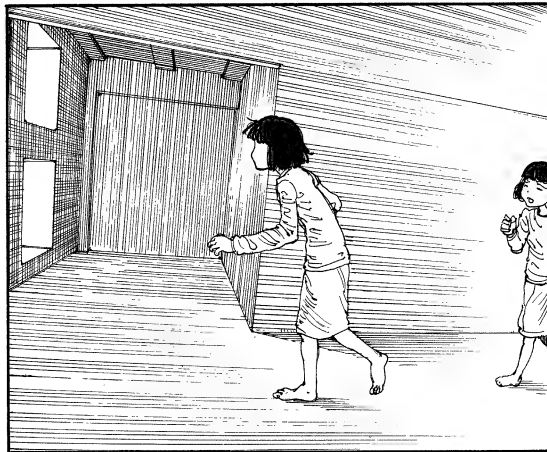
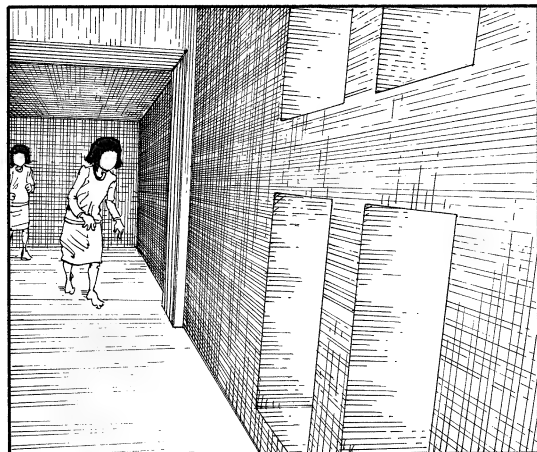
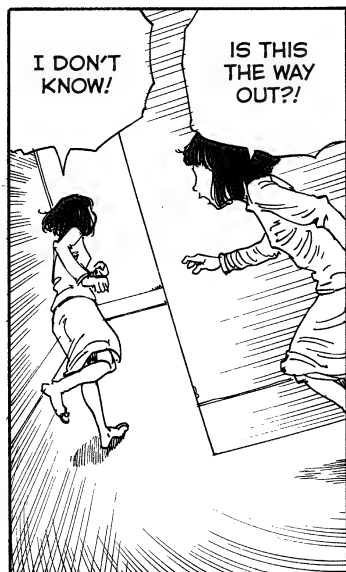


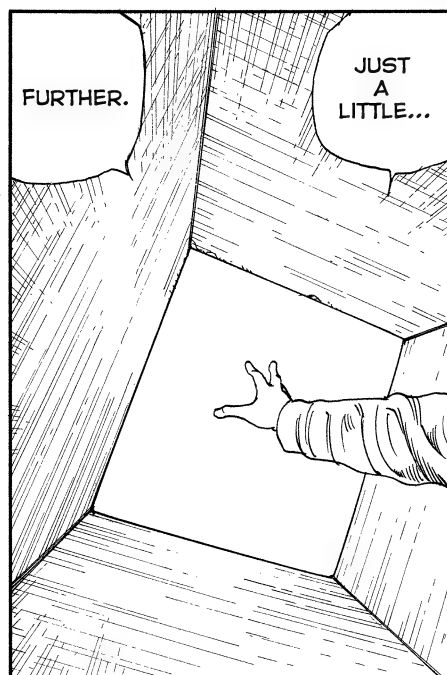
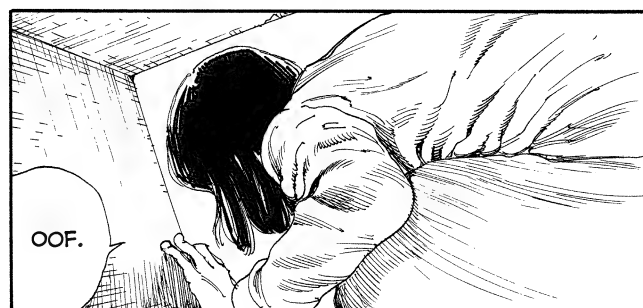


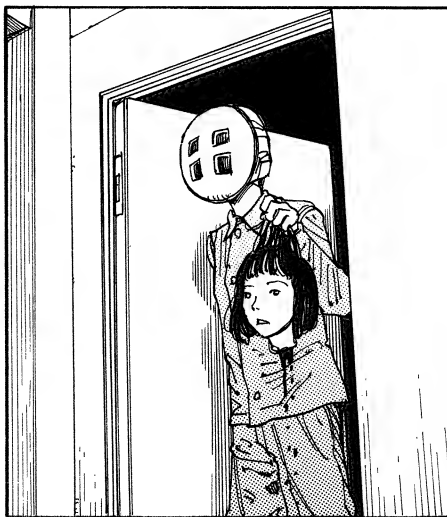
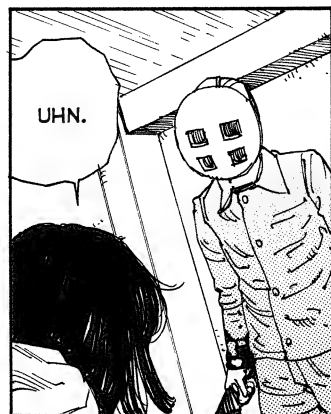
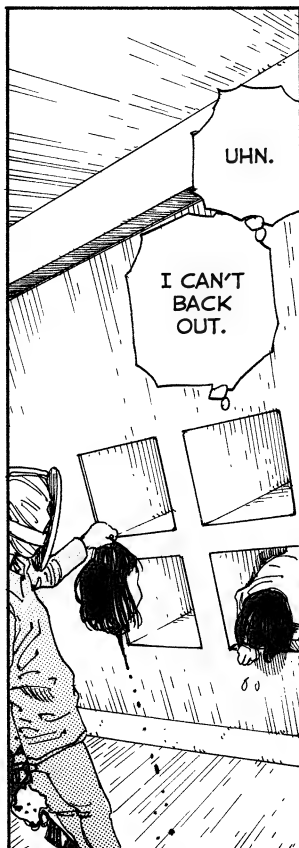
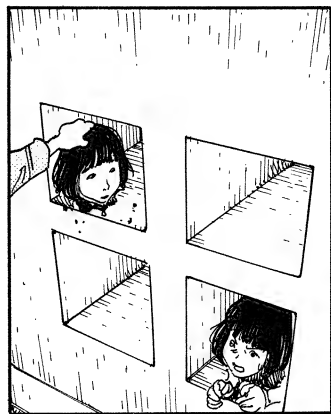
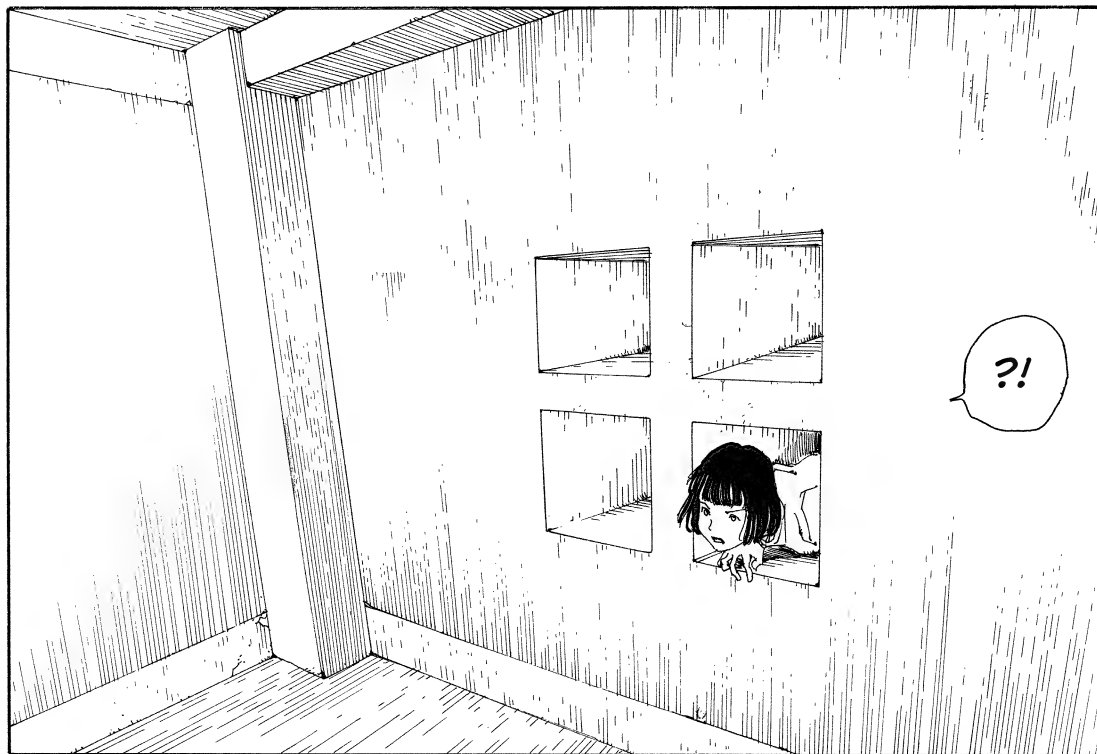


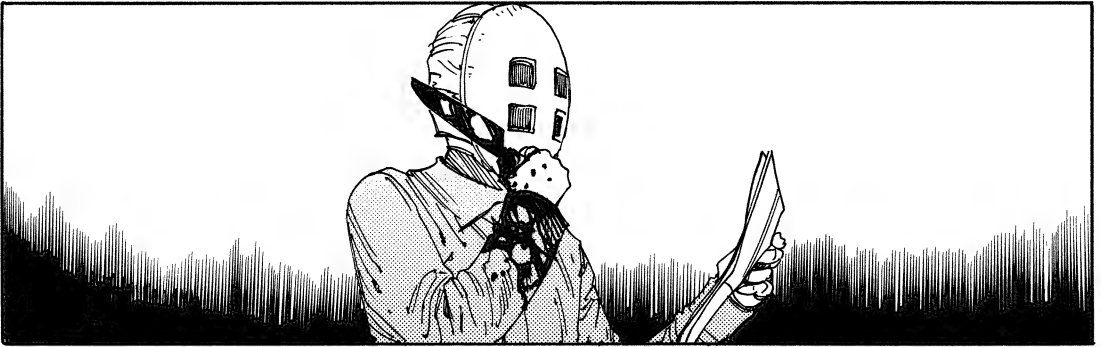
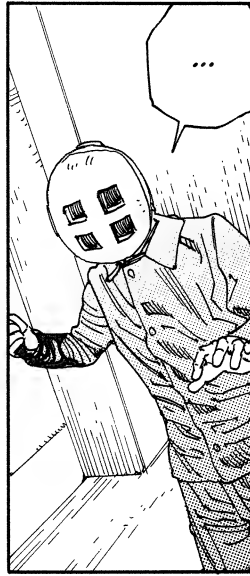
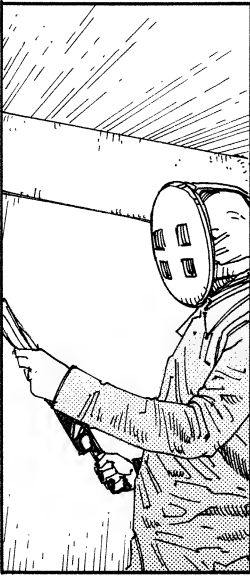


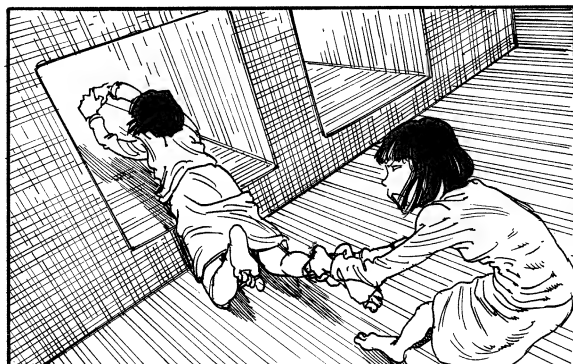
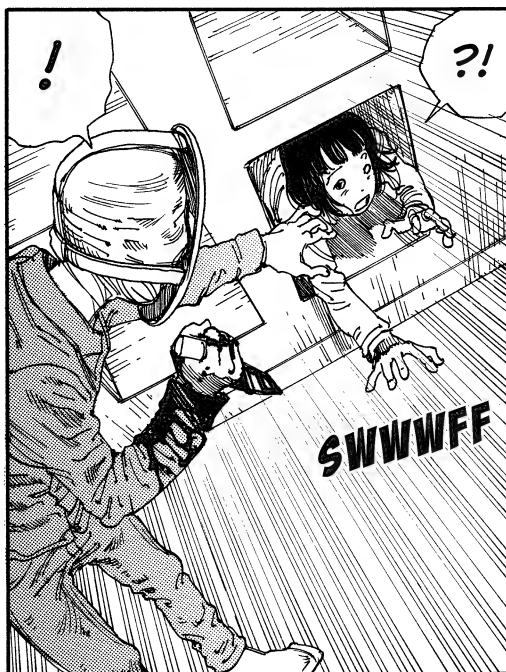
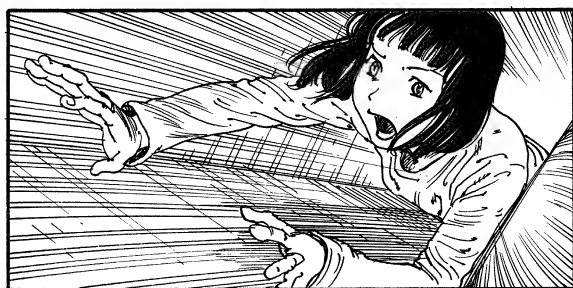
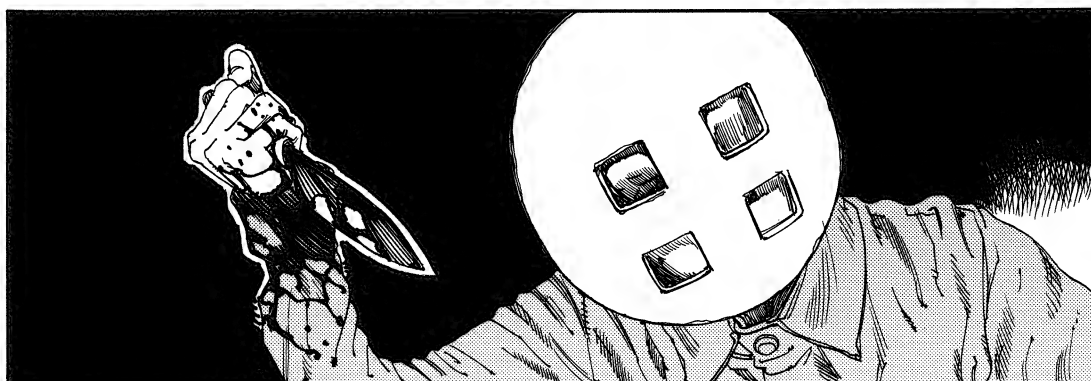
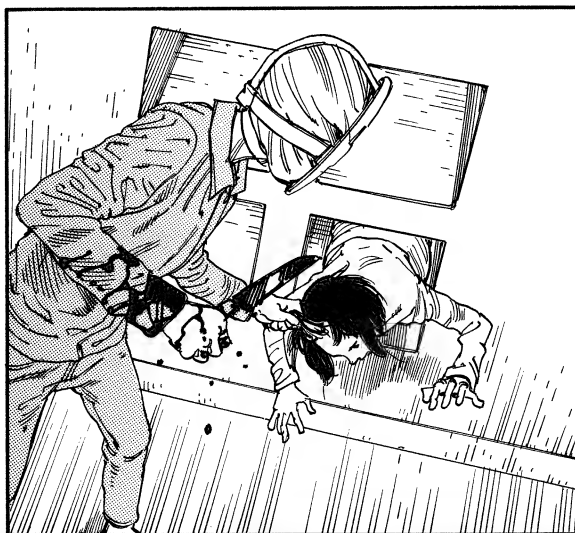


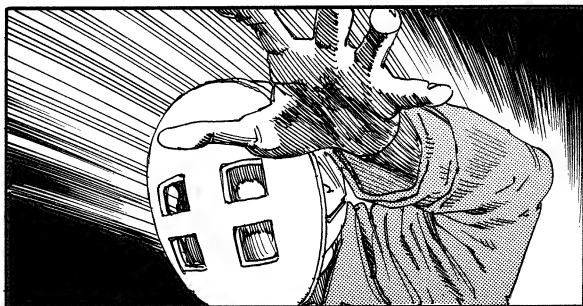
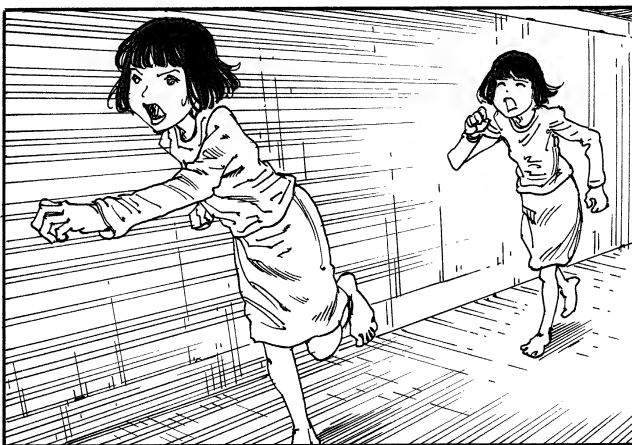
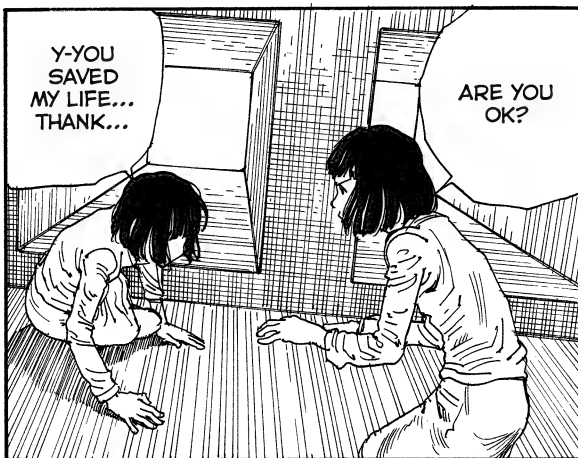


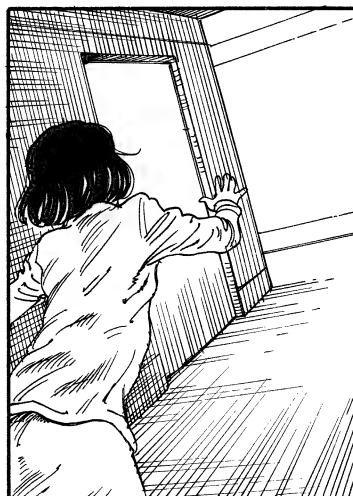
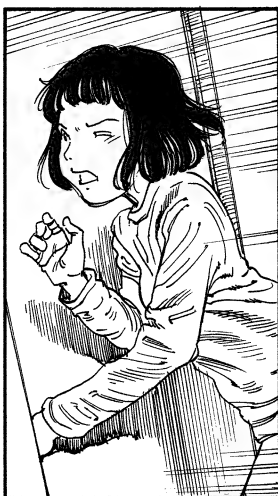
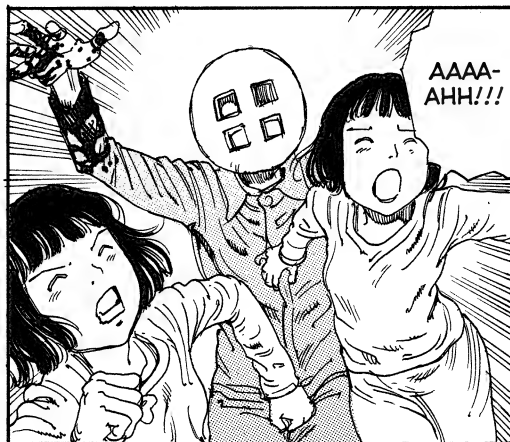


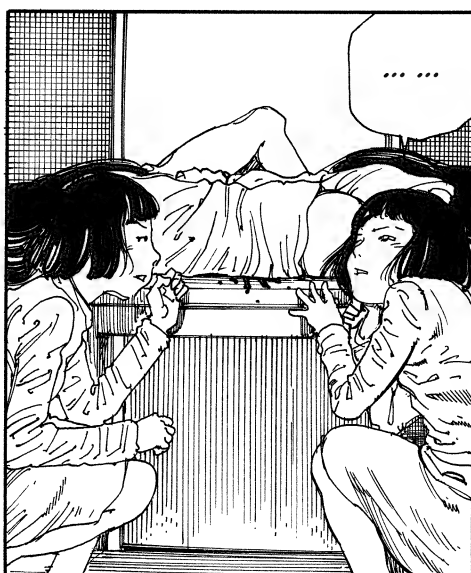
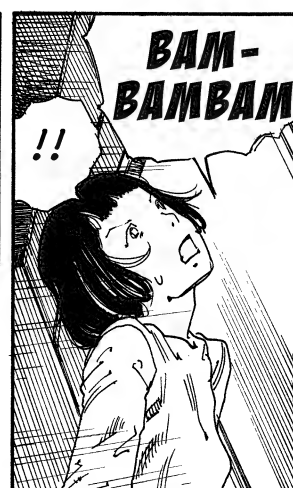
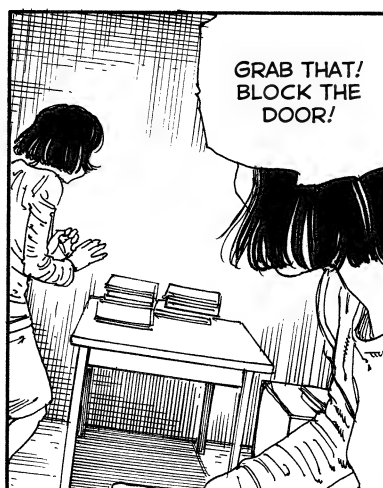


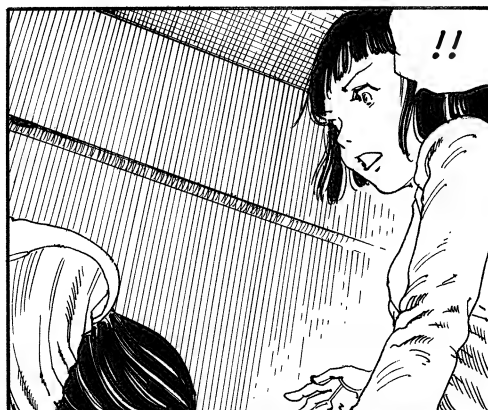


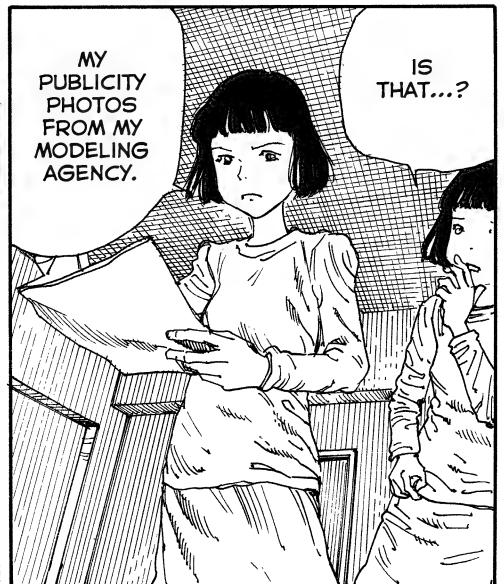
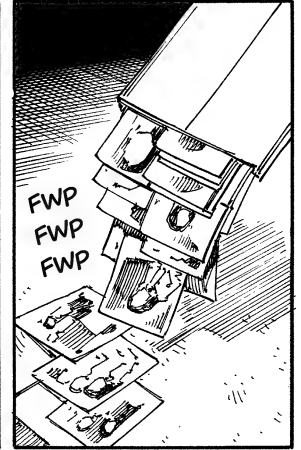
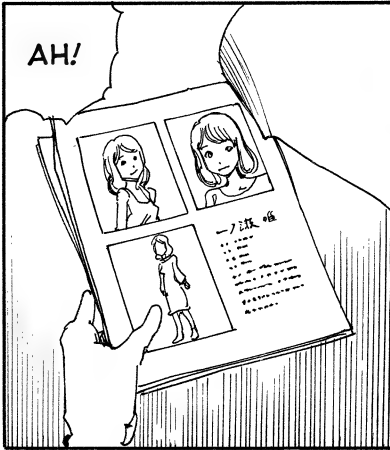
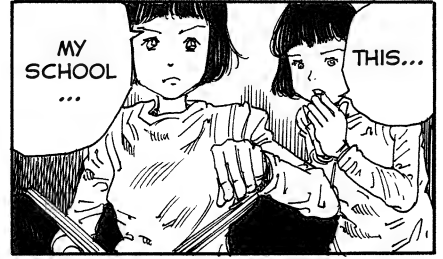
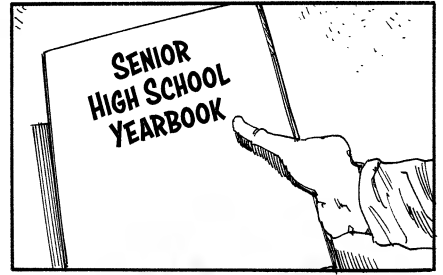
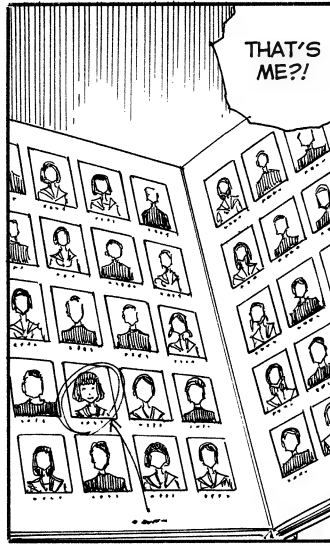
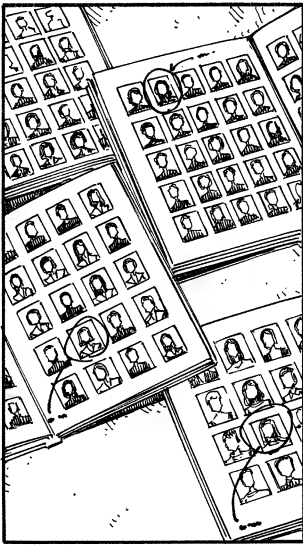




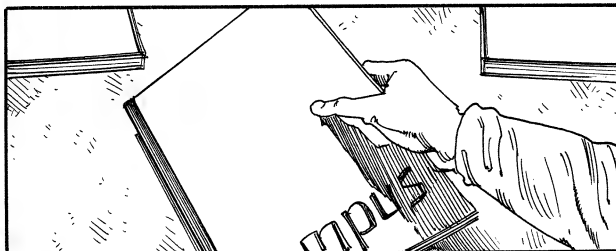




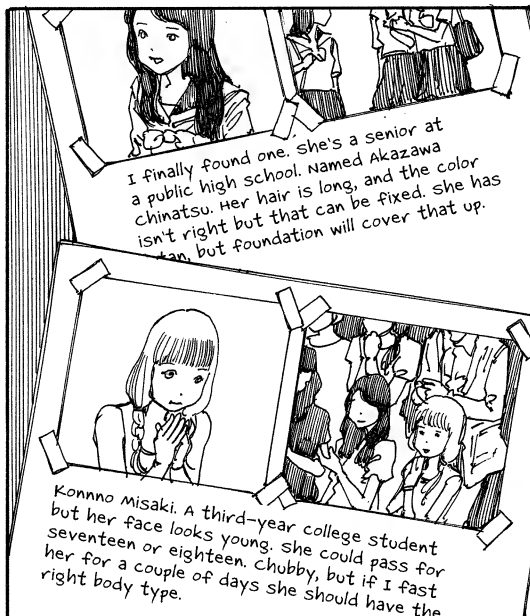
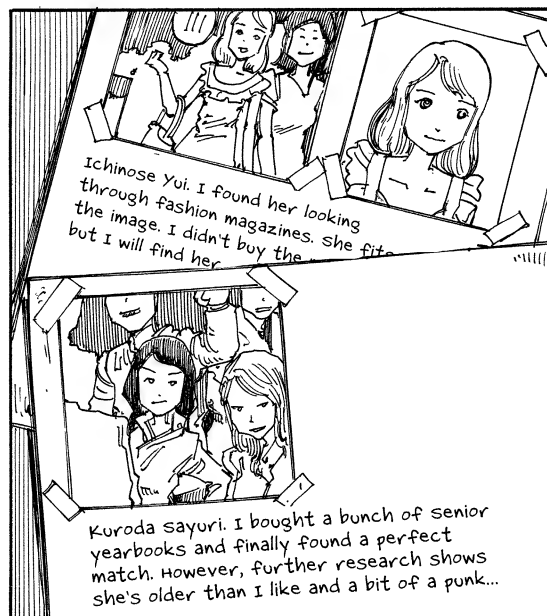
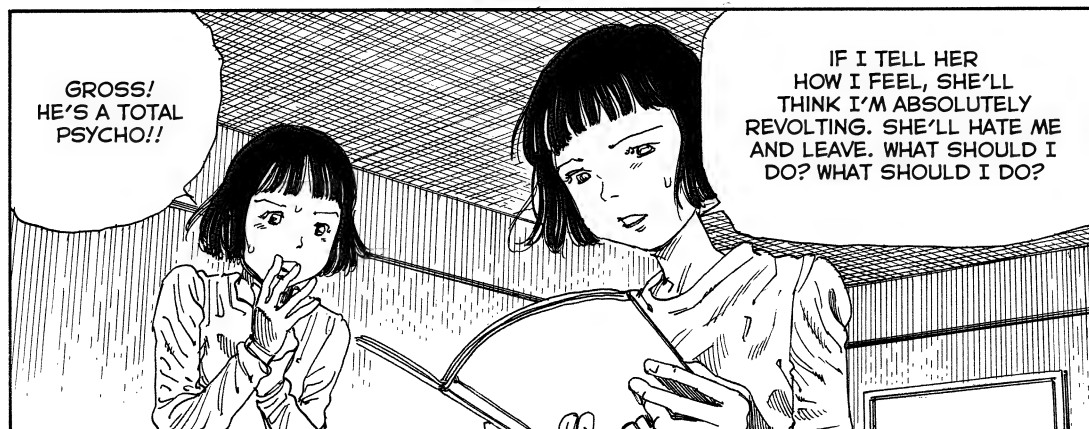




after I do to stop
my appetite I can't
take my eyes only in
her. I want to travel
go out to dinner with
always be with her
when I'm sleep
ak, to to sleep



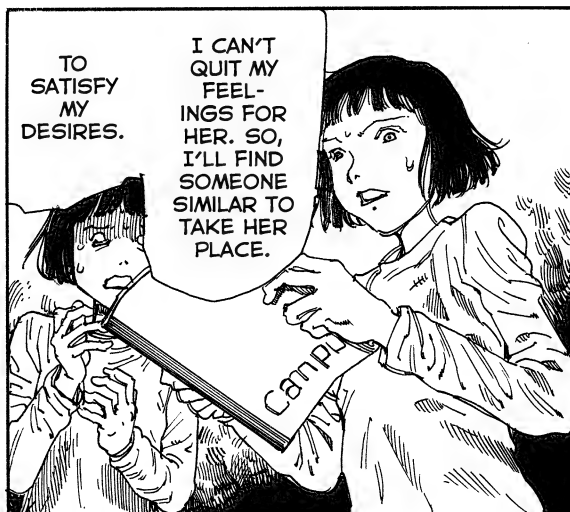
what can I do to stop this feeling?
day after day I can't get anything
done. My appetite only increases. I
can't take my eyes off her face. Her
hairstyle is perfect. I want to become
one with her. I want to travel with her.
I want to go out to dinner with her. I
want to always be with her. Of course,
it happens when I'm sleeping. I need to
take a break, to temporarily forget.





I COULDN'T
SETTLE FOR
JUST ONE.
I'M LOOKING
FOR THREE
MORE...

H-HE'S
INSANE!!!



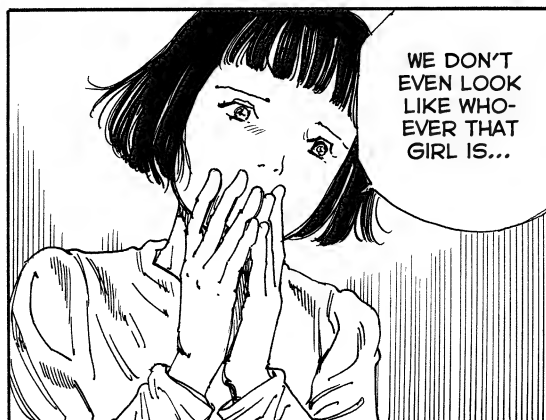
TO
SATISFY
MY
DESIRES.

I CAN'T
QUIT MY
FEEL-
INGS FOR
HER. SO,
I'LL FIND
SOMEONE
SIMILAR TO
TAKE HER
PLACE.



THEN HE
FOUND
HIS NEXT
TARGETS...

HE'S
KILLED FOUR
ALREADY.
THAT SATIS-
FIED HIM FOR A
WHILE...



WE DON'T
EVEN LOOK
LIKE WHO-
EVER THAT
GIRL IS...



AH!

LOOK
!!!

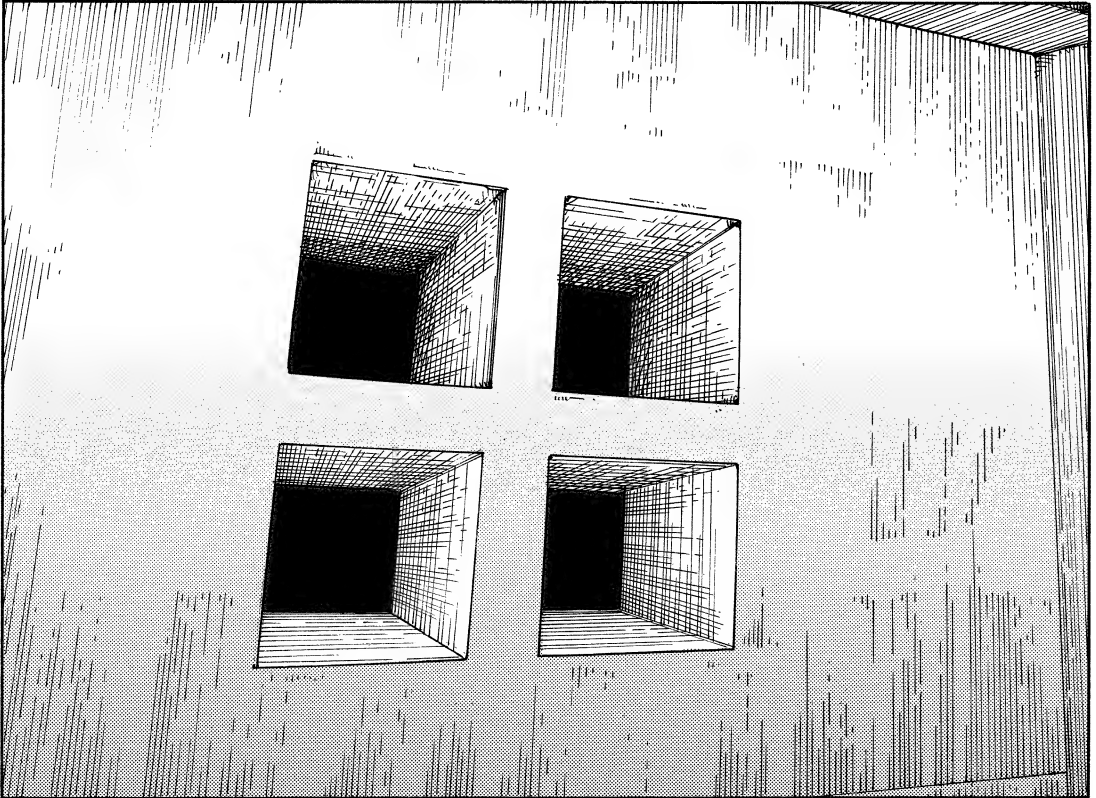


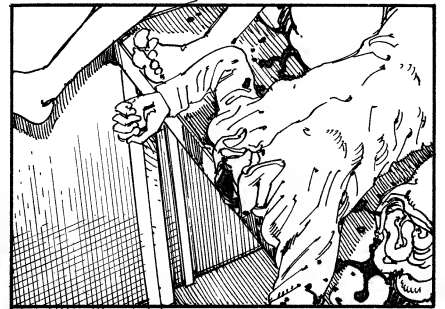
HNN?

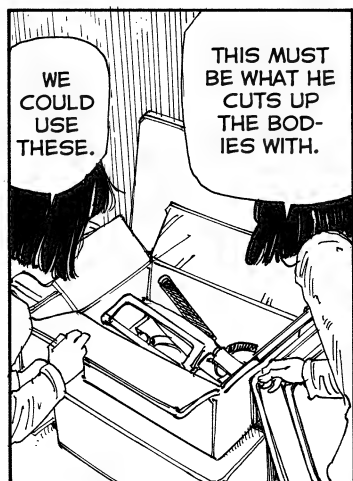


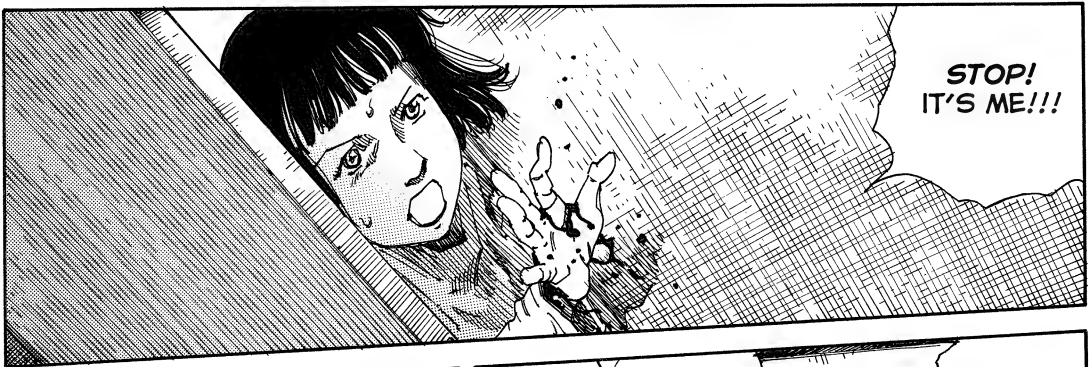
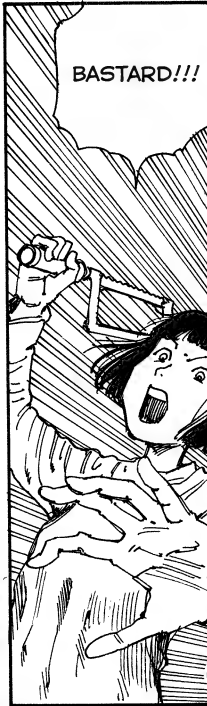
THAT'S
SEEMS
TO BE IT.

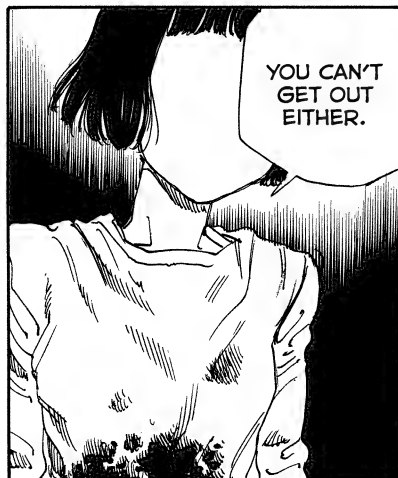
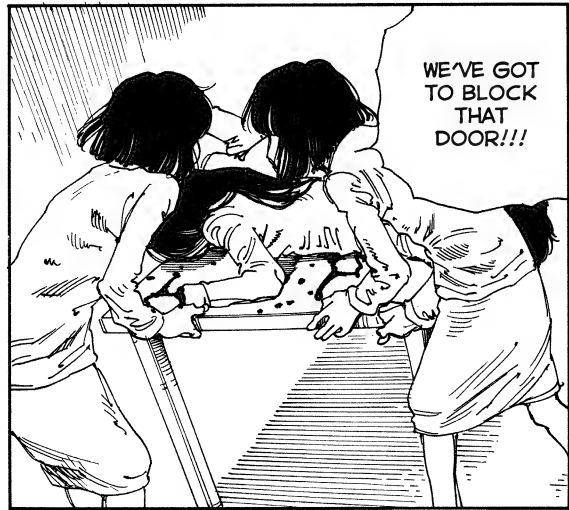
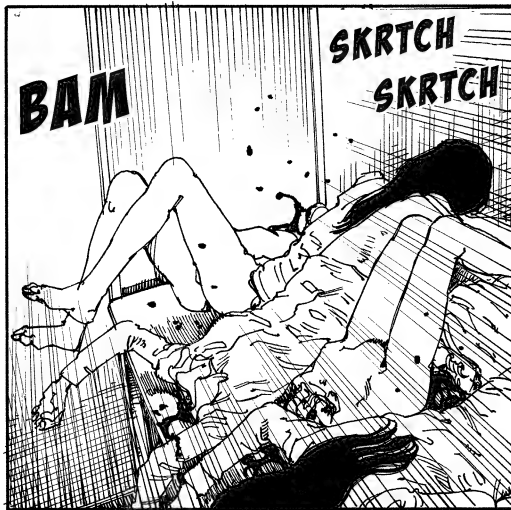
SO HE'S
OBSESSED
WITH SOMEONE
WHO LOOKS
LIKE US?!







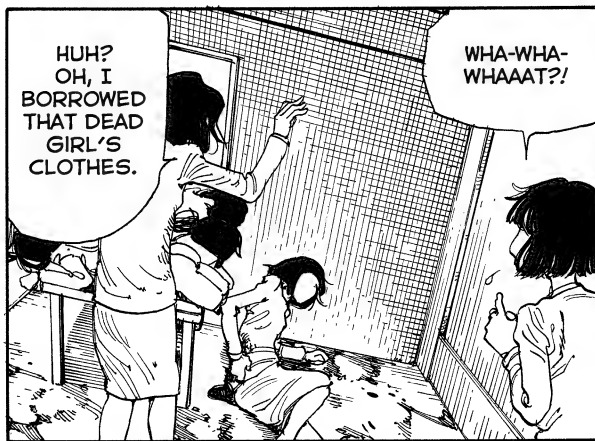






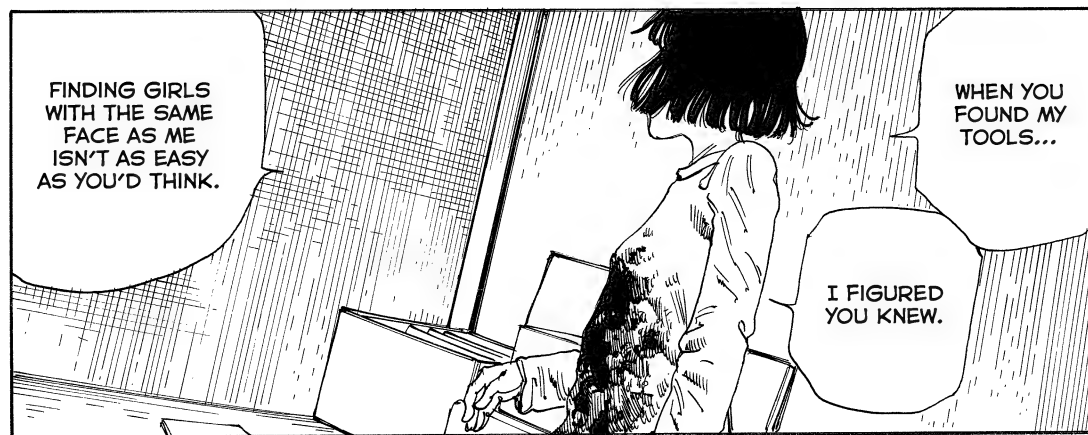
BUT YOUR
FACE...

Y-YOU'RE
THE
KILLER...?



HUH?
OH, I
BORROWED
THAT DEAD
GIRL'S
CLOTHES.

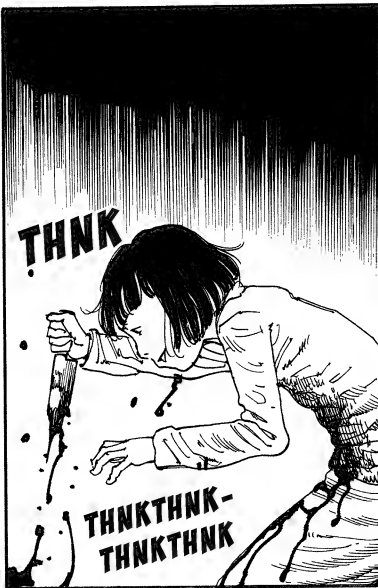
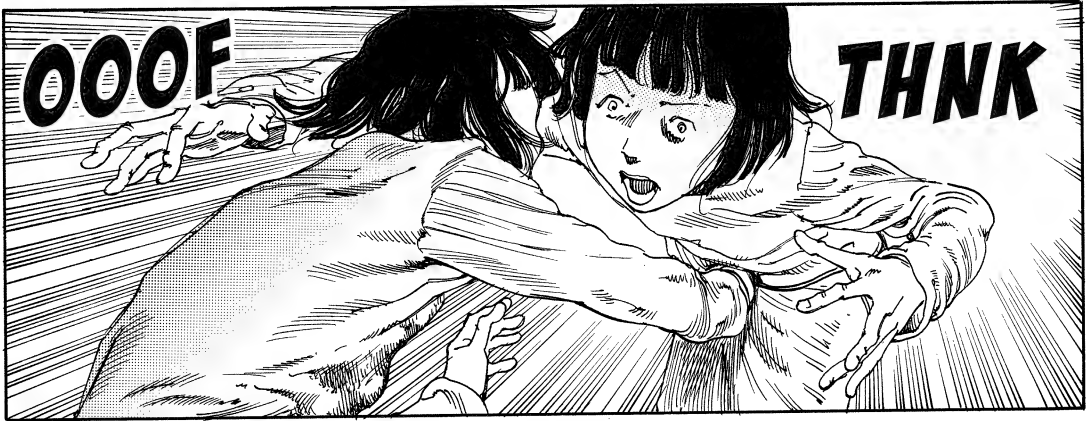
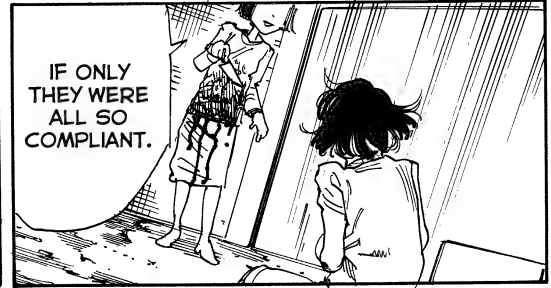
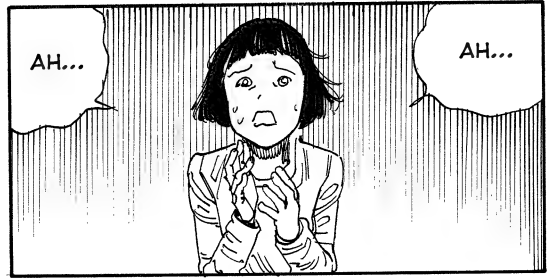
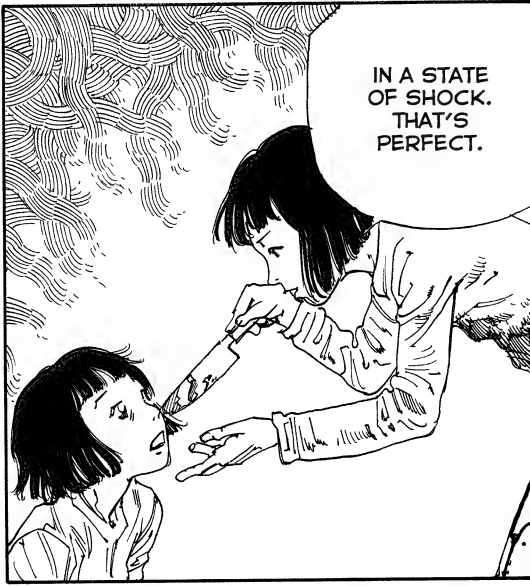
WHA-WHA-
WHAAAT?!

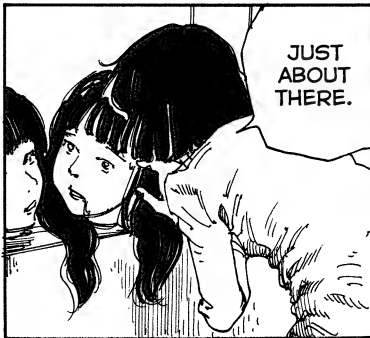
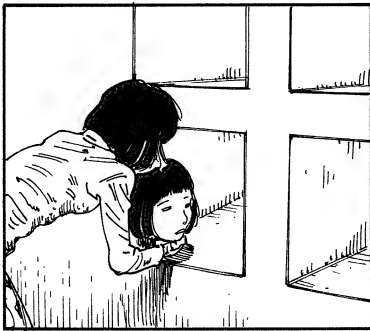
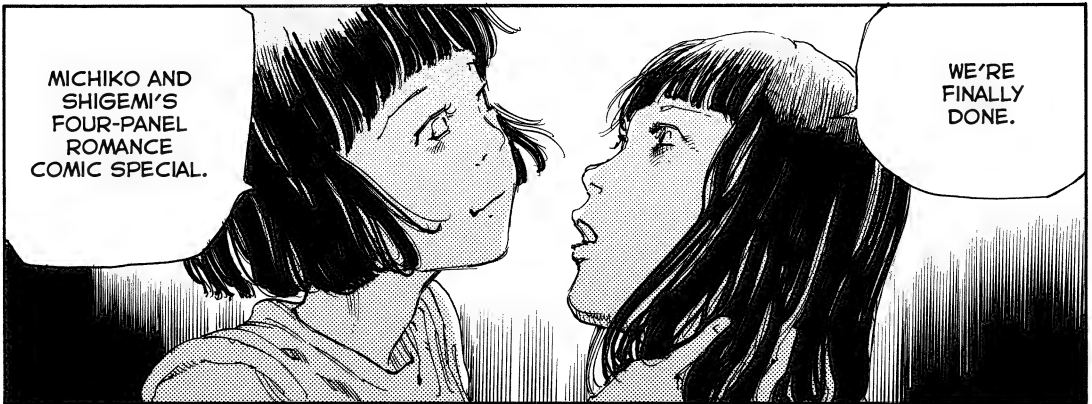
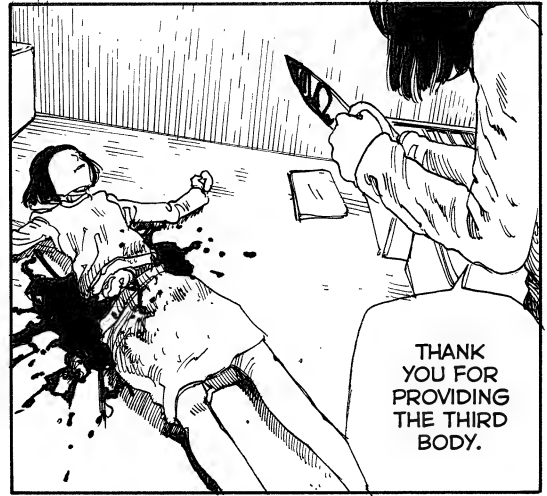
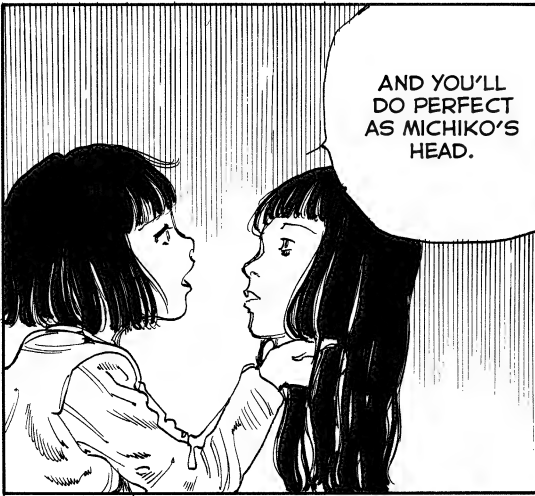


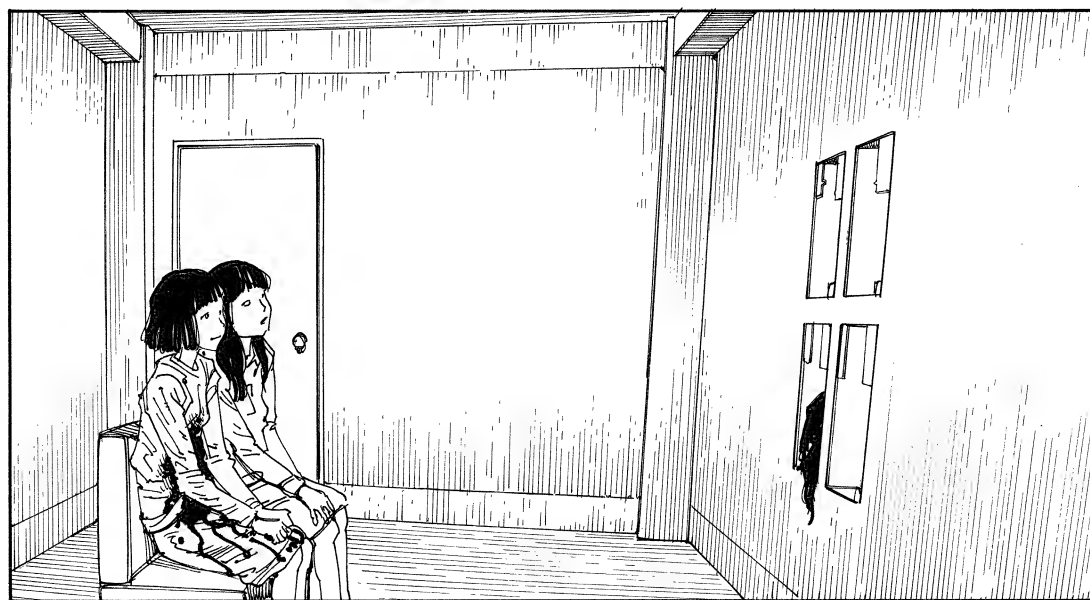
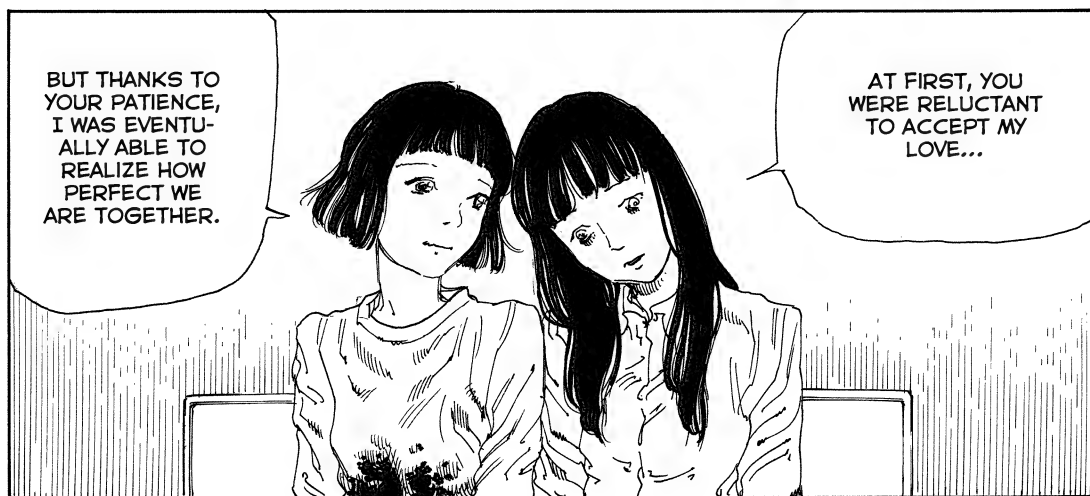
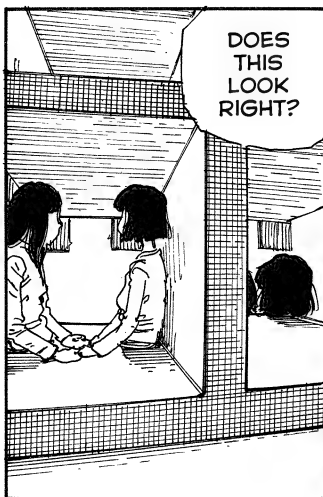
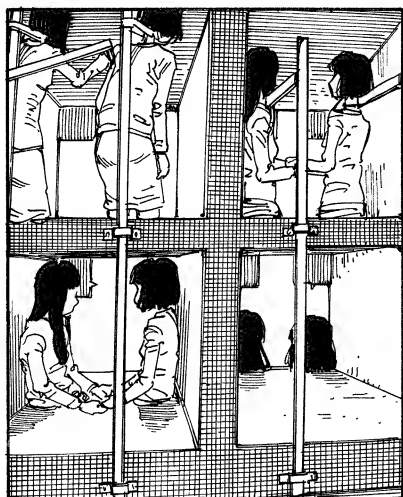
FINDING GIRLS
WITH THE SAME
FACE AS ME
ISN'T AS EASY
AS YOU'D THINK.

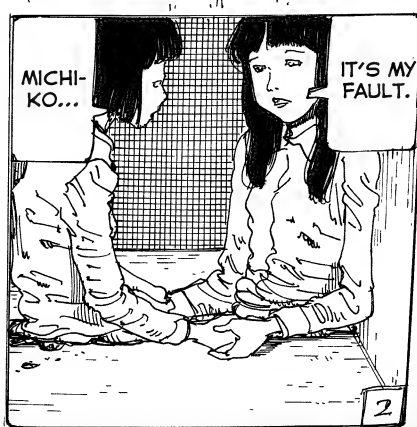
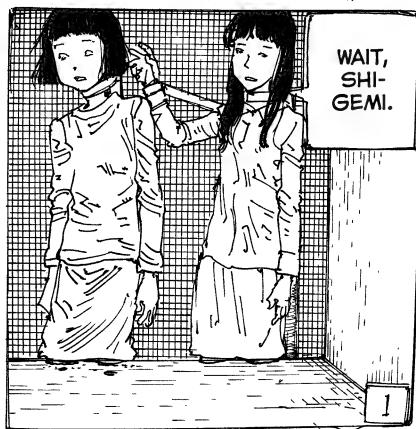
WHEN YOU
FOUND MY
TOOLS...

I FIGURED
YOU KNEW.



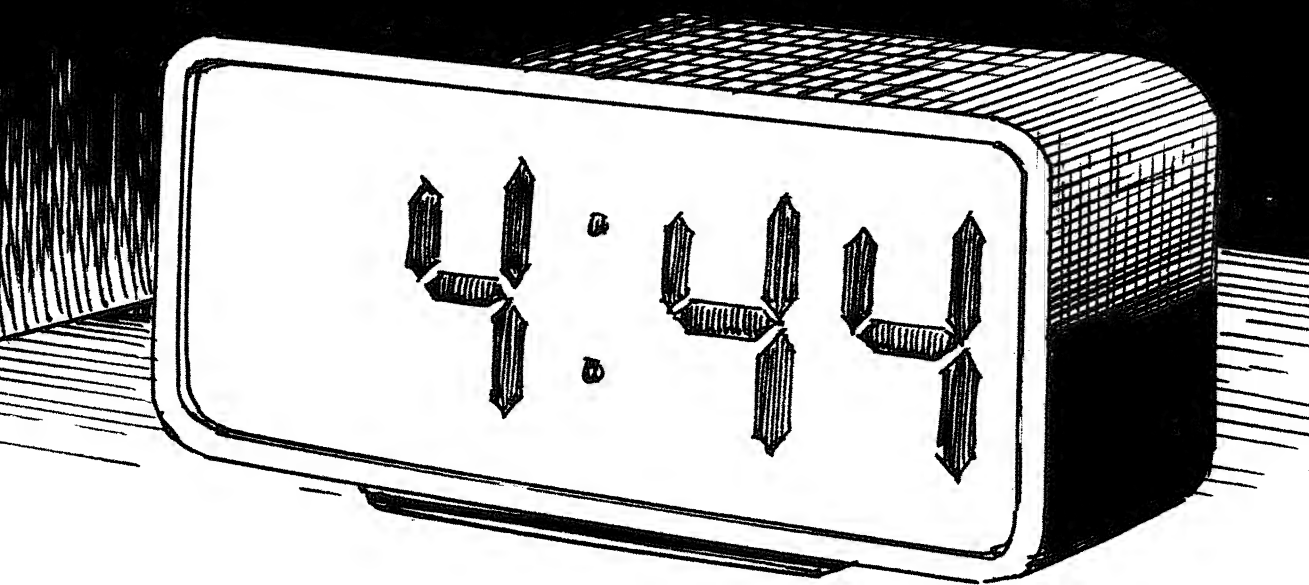


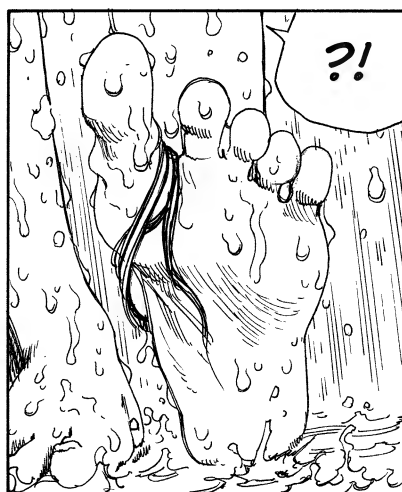
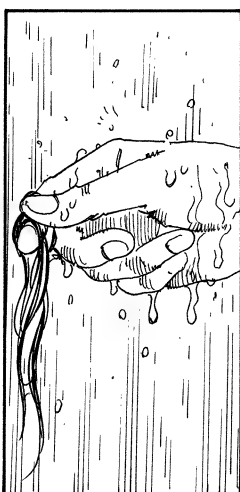
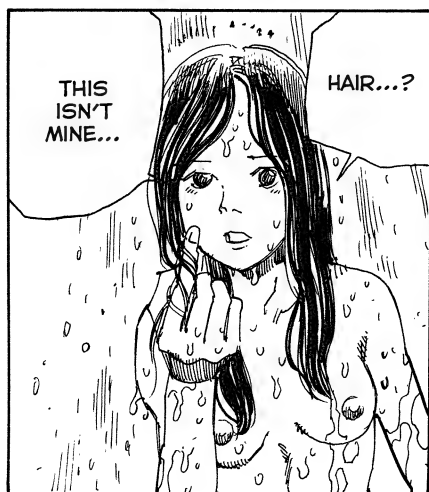
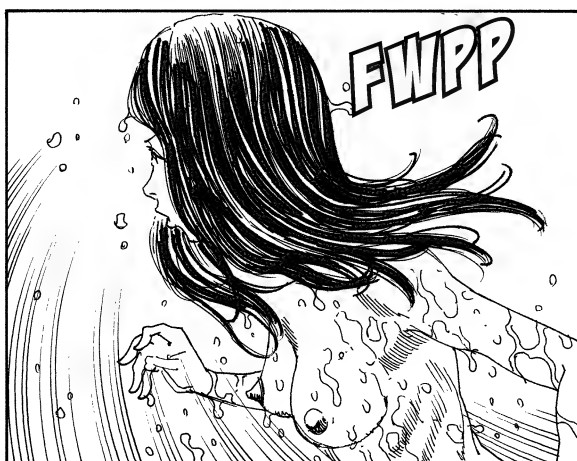
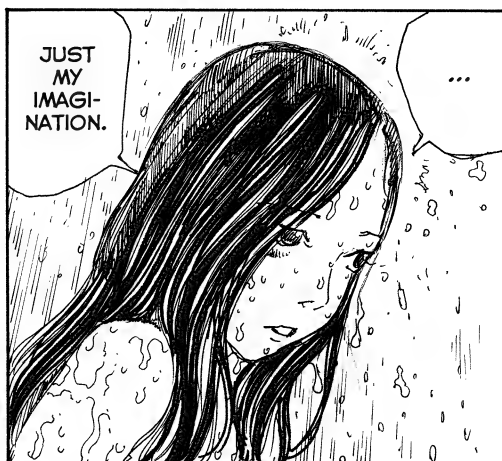
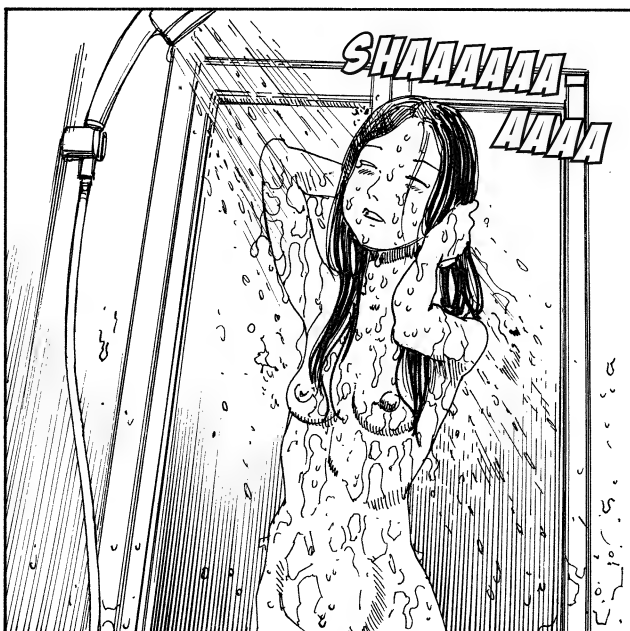
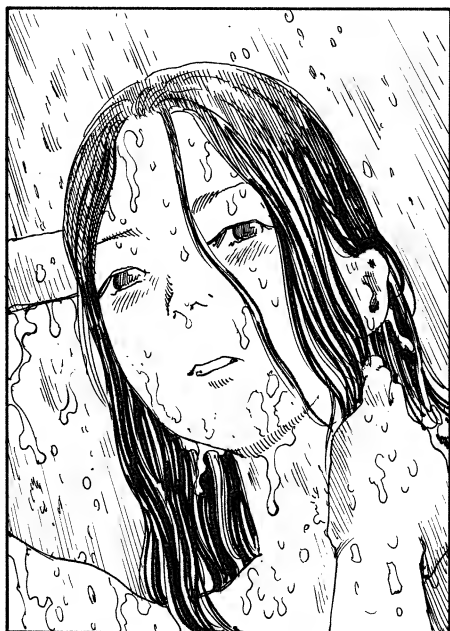


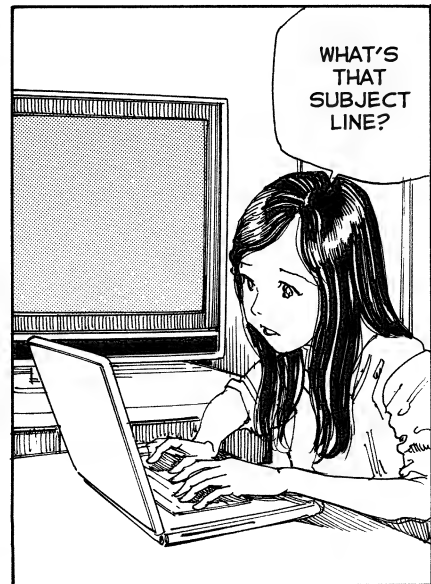
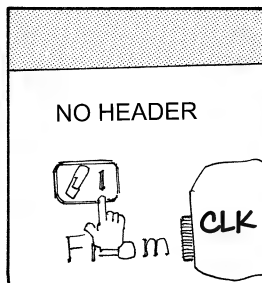
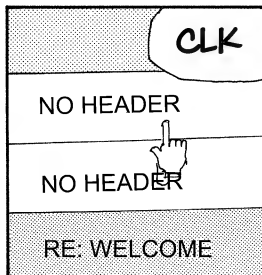
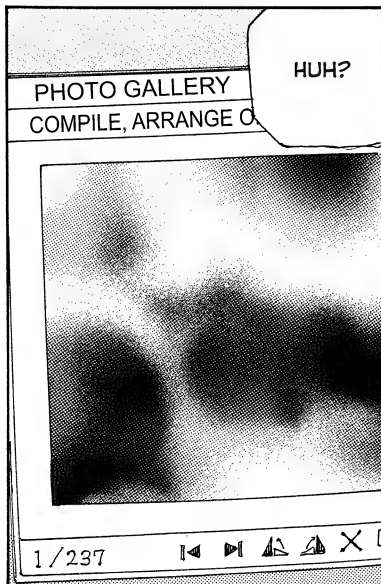
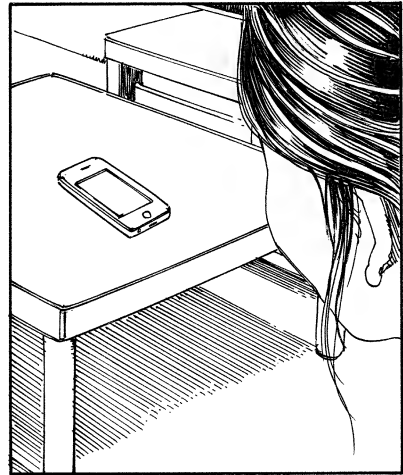
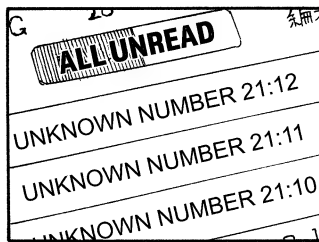
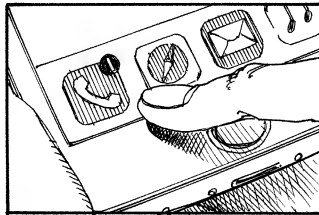
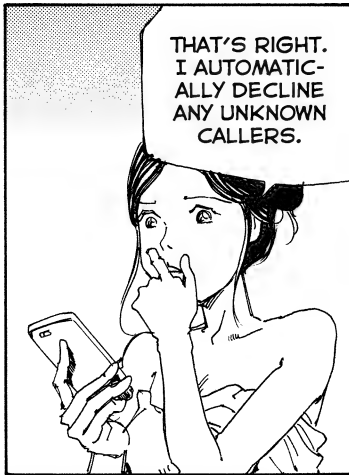
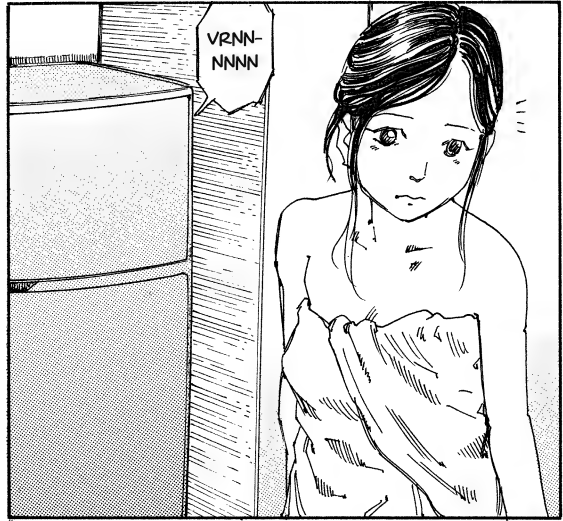
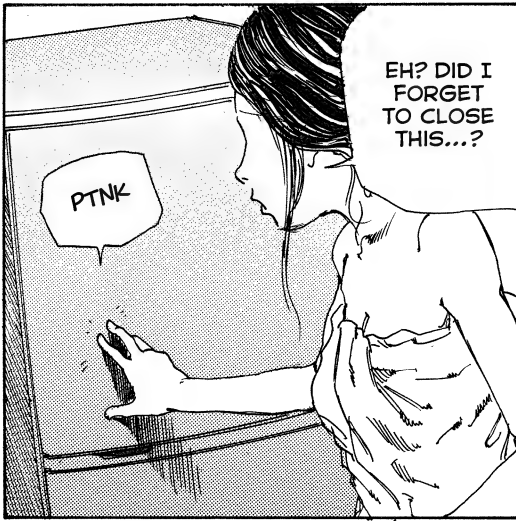


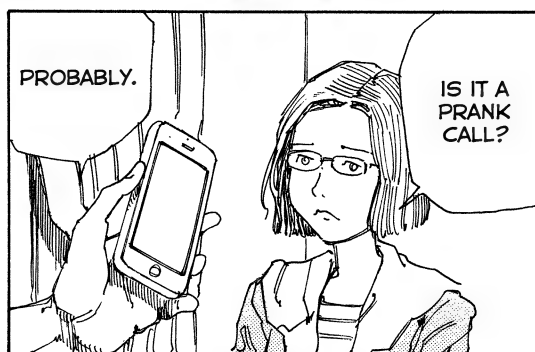
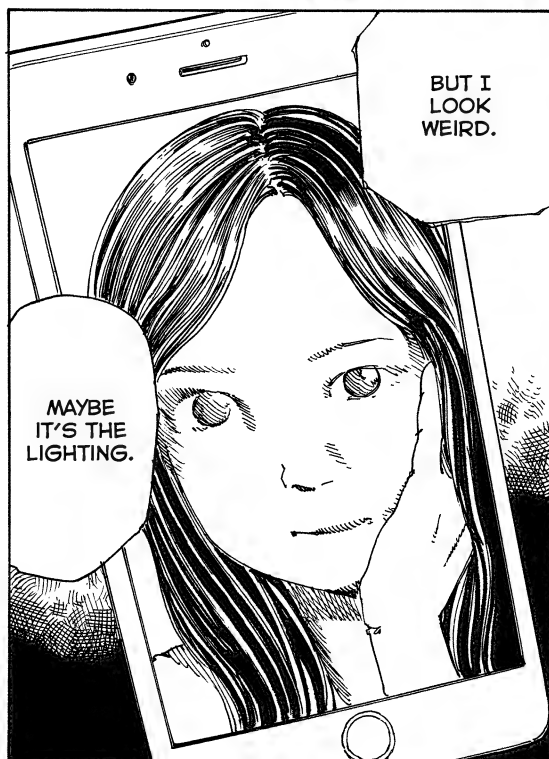
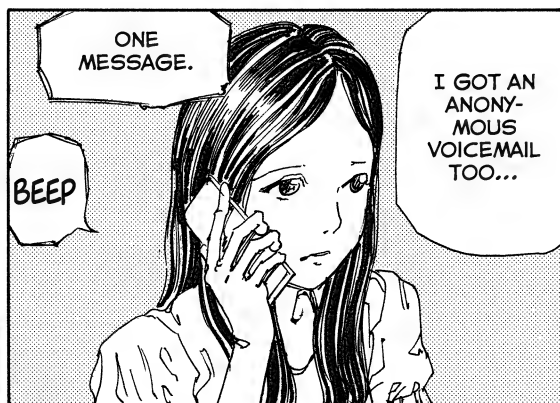
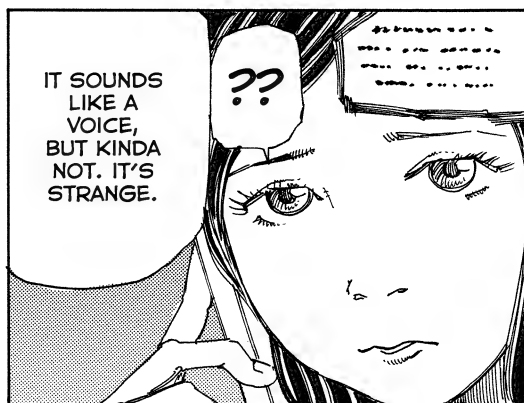
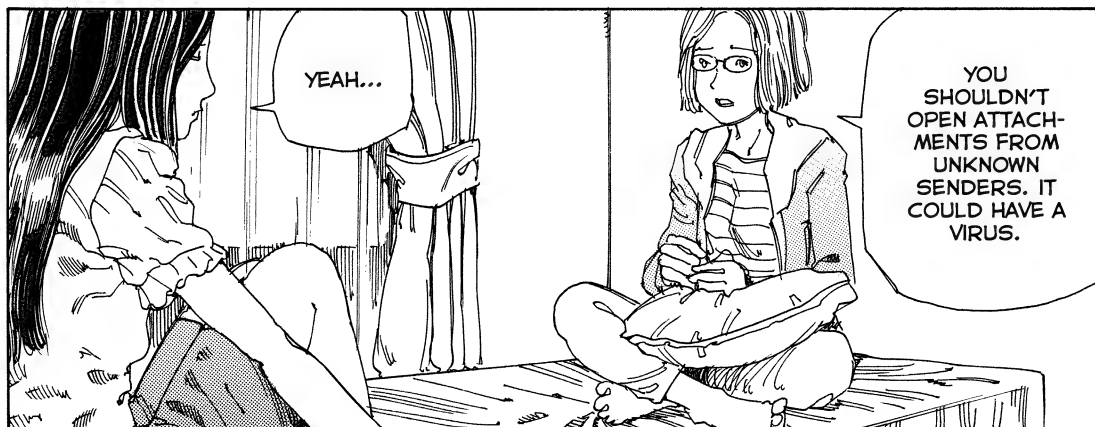
CURSE ROOM

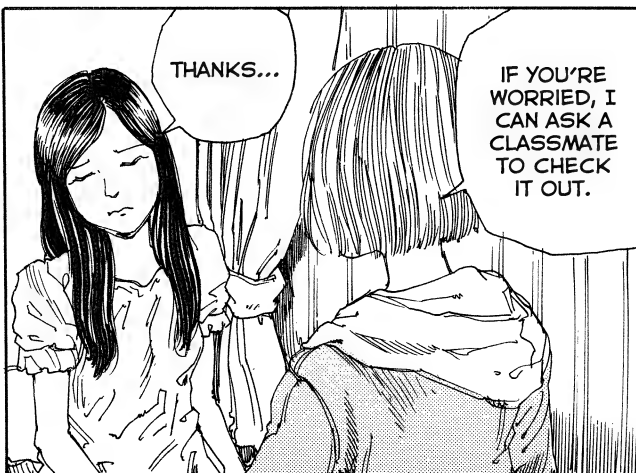
呪いの部屋









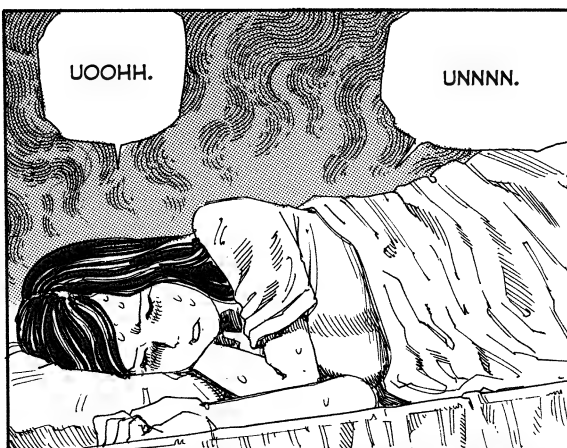


THANKS...

IF YOU'RE
WORRIED, I
CAN ASK A
CLASSMATE
TO CHECK
IT OUT.

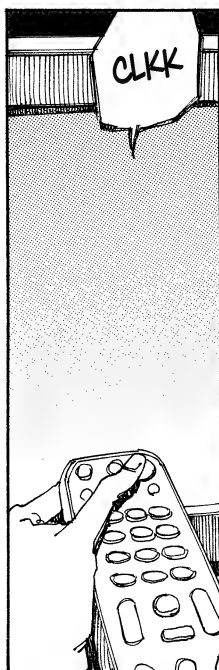


AH!

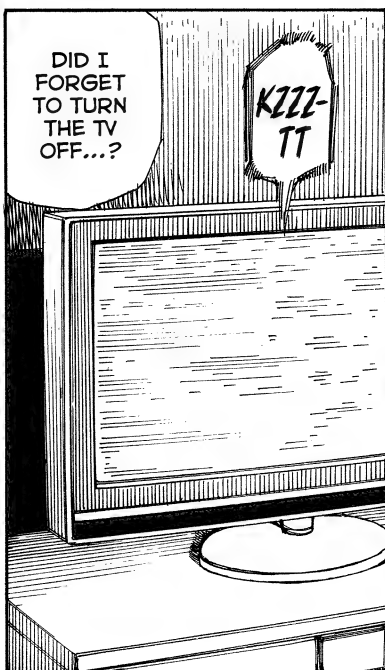


UOOHH.

UNNNN.

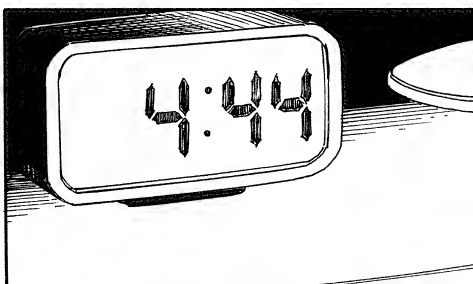


CLKK



DID I
FORGET
TO TURN
THE TV
OFF...?

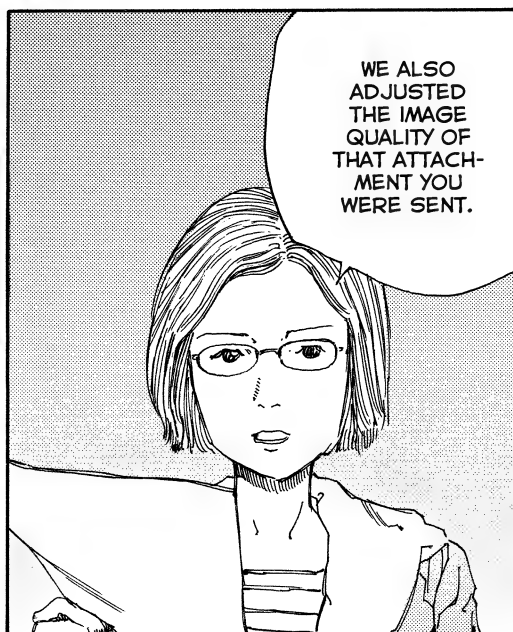
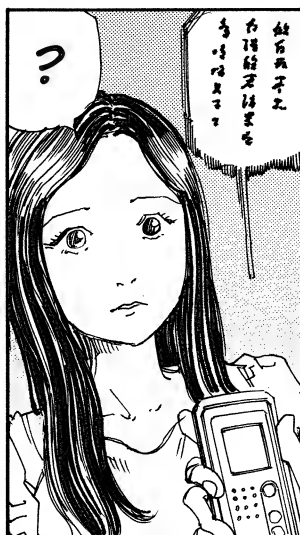
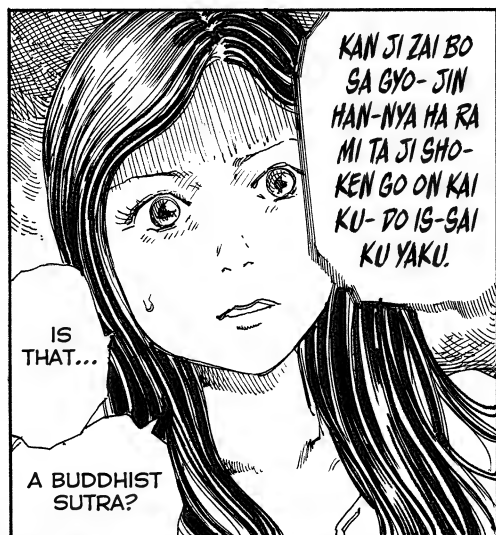
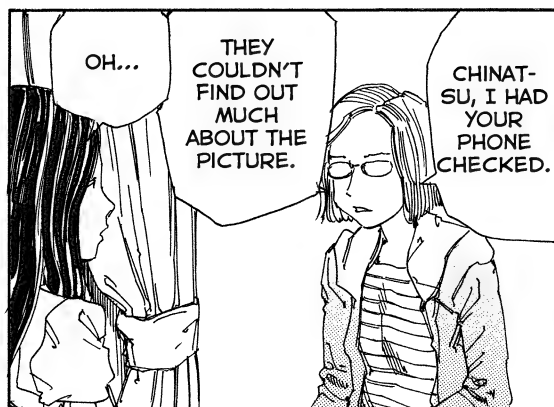
KZZZ-
TT

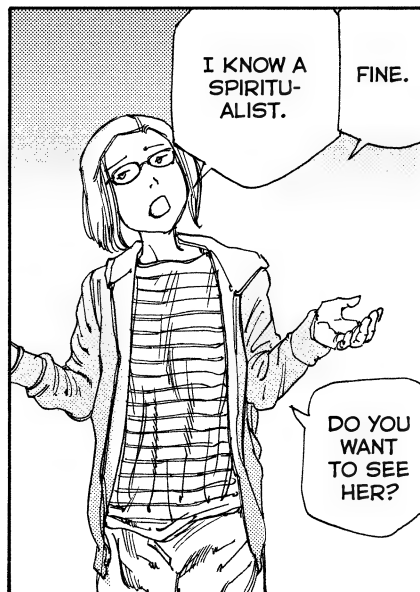
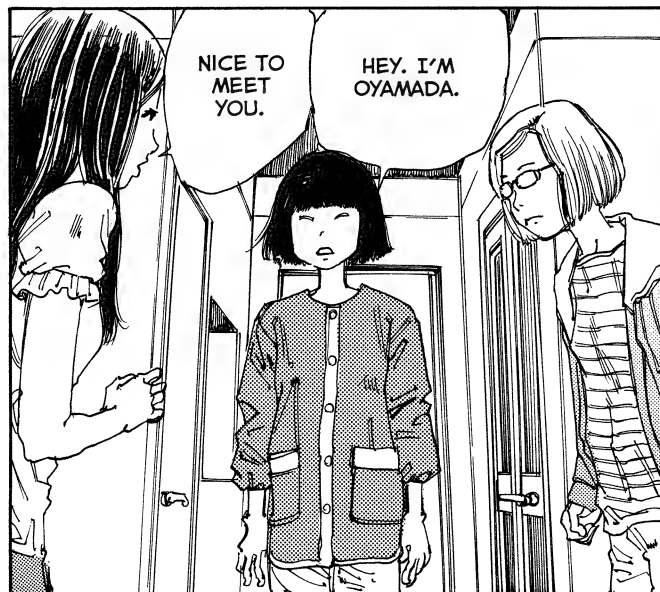
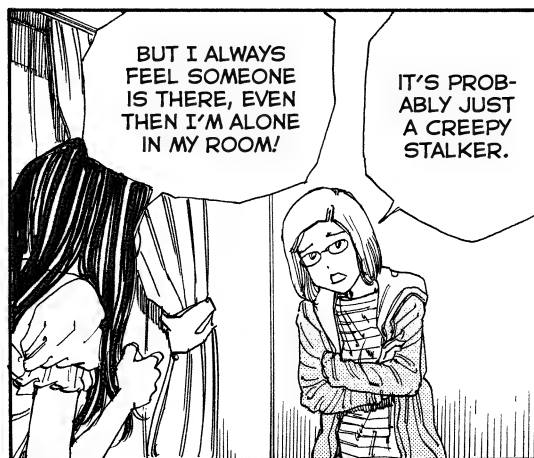
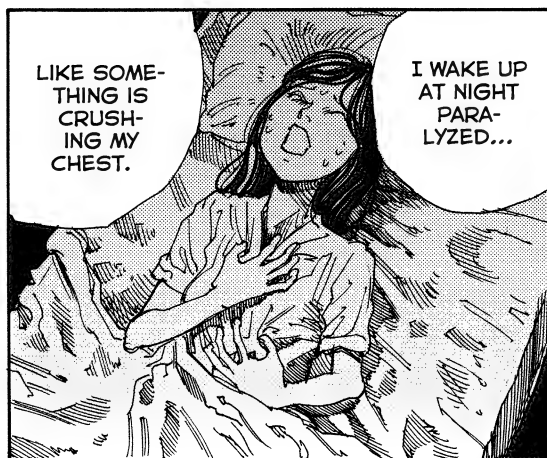


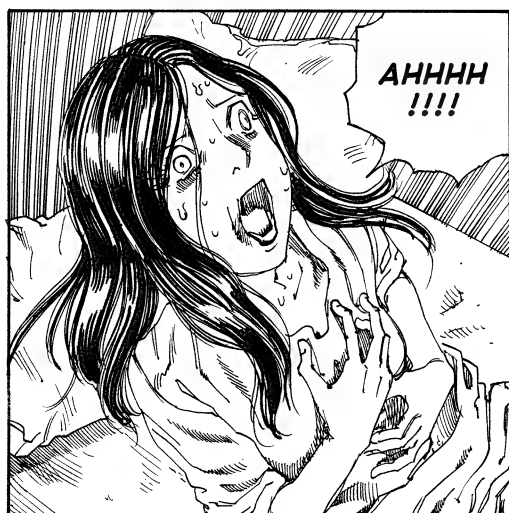
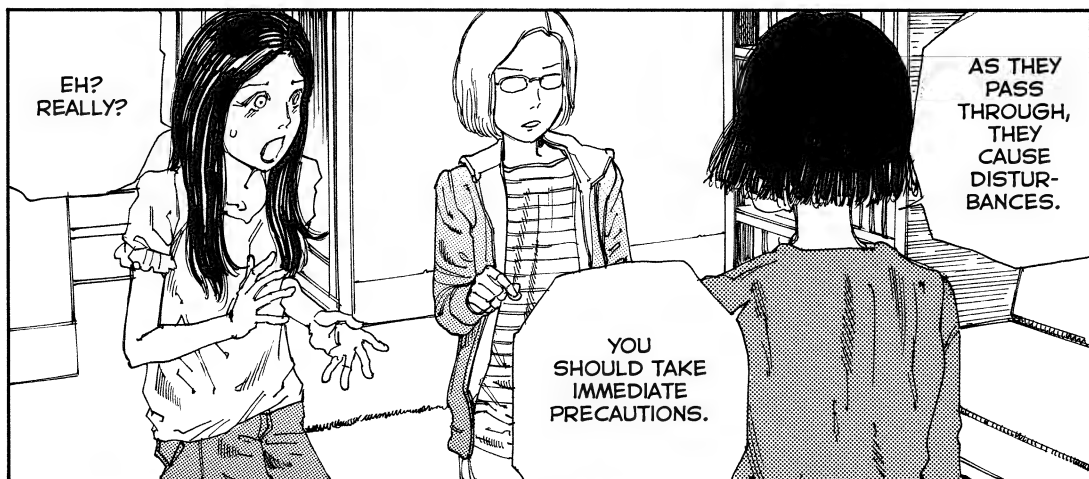
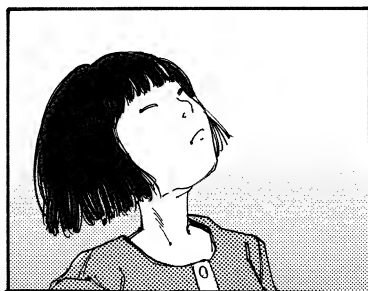
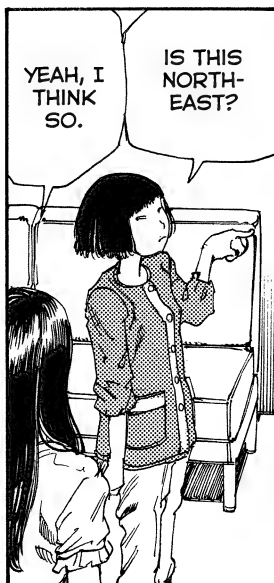
4:44

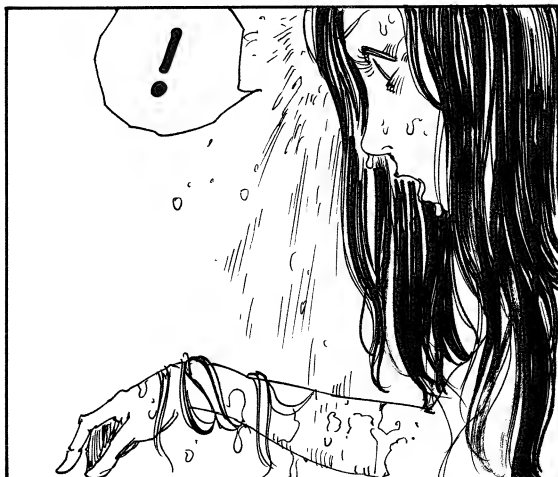
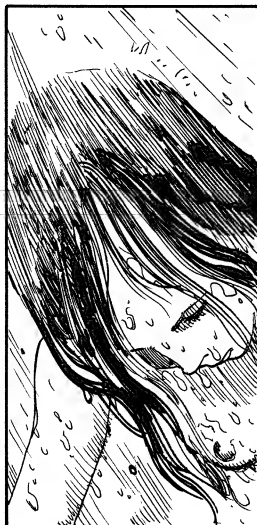
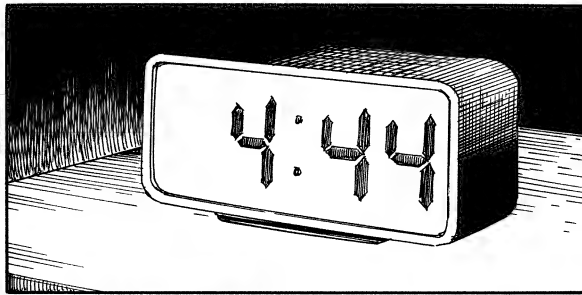
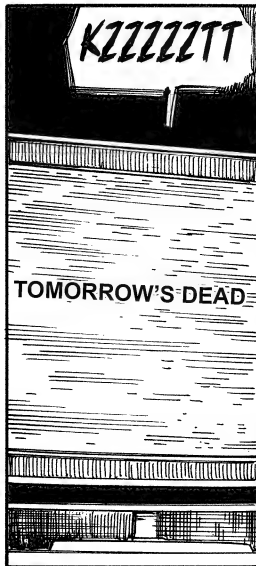
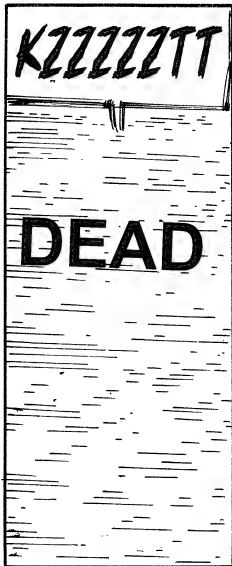


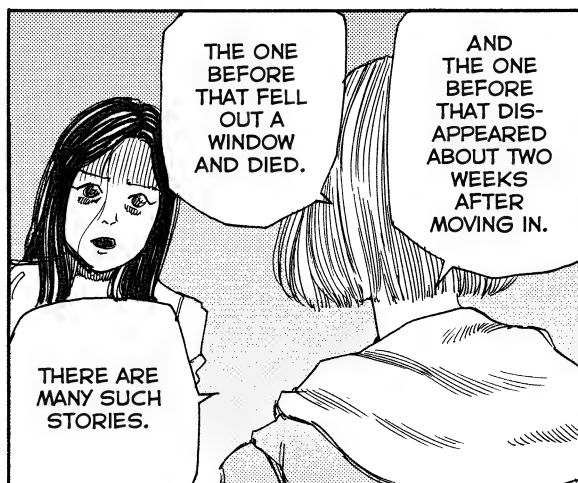
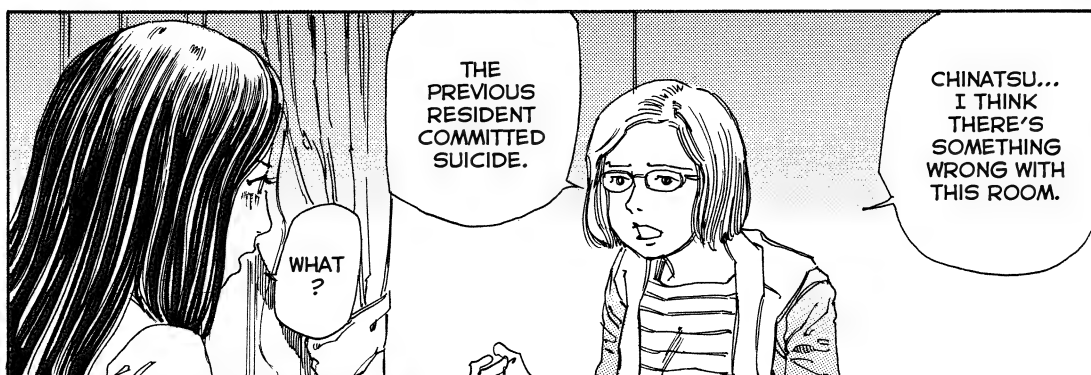
KZZZ-
TT

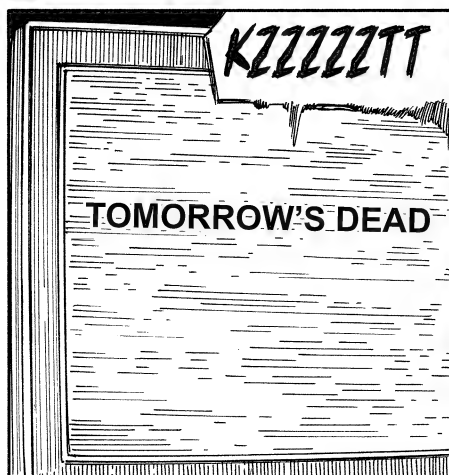
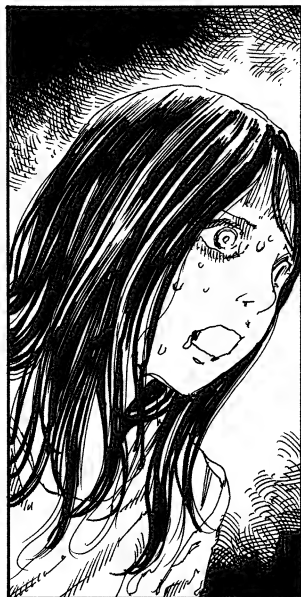
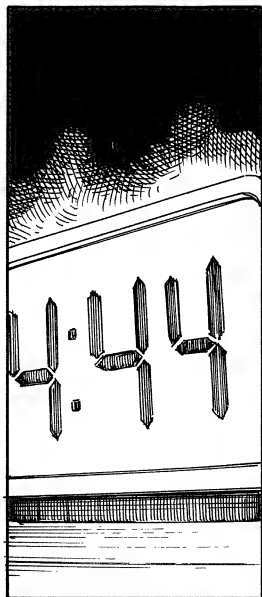


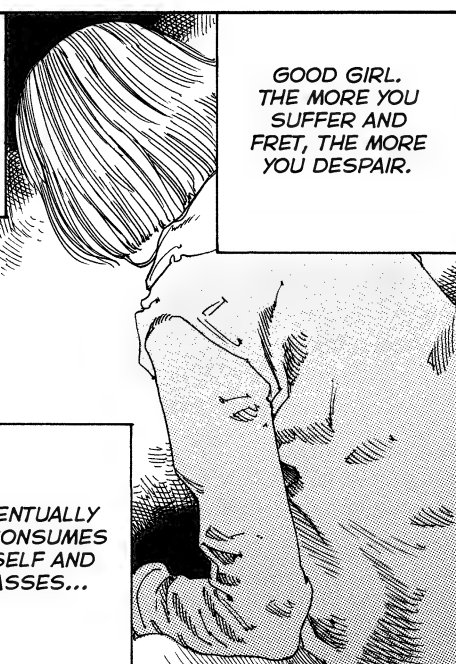
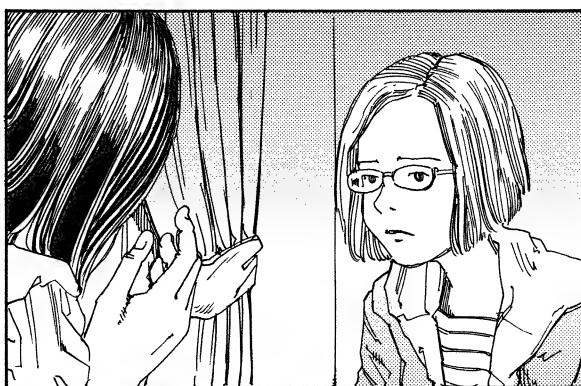
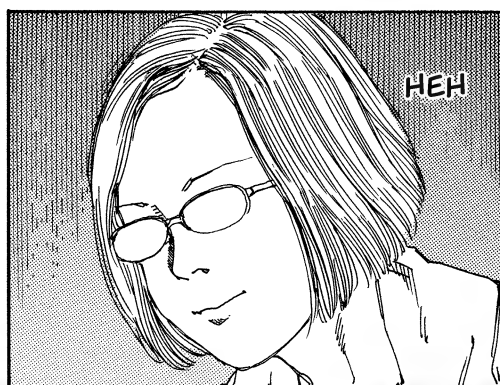
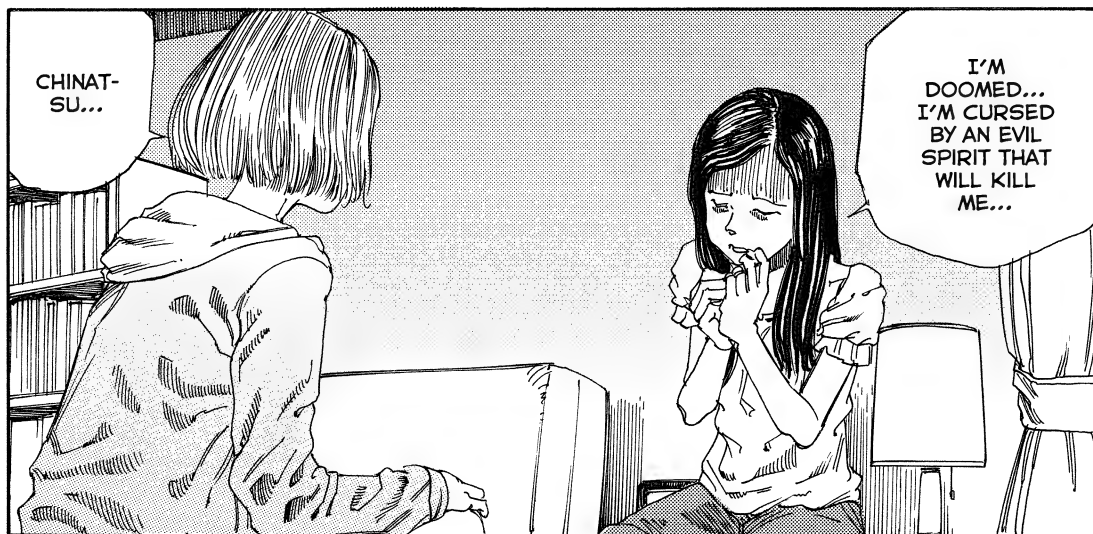




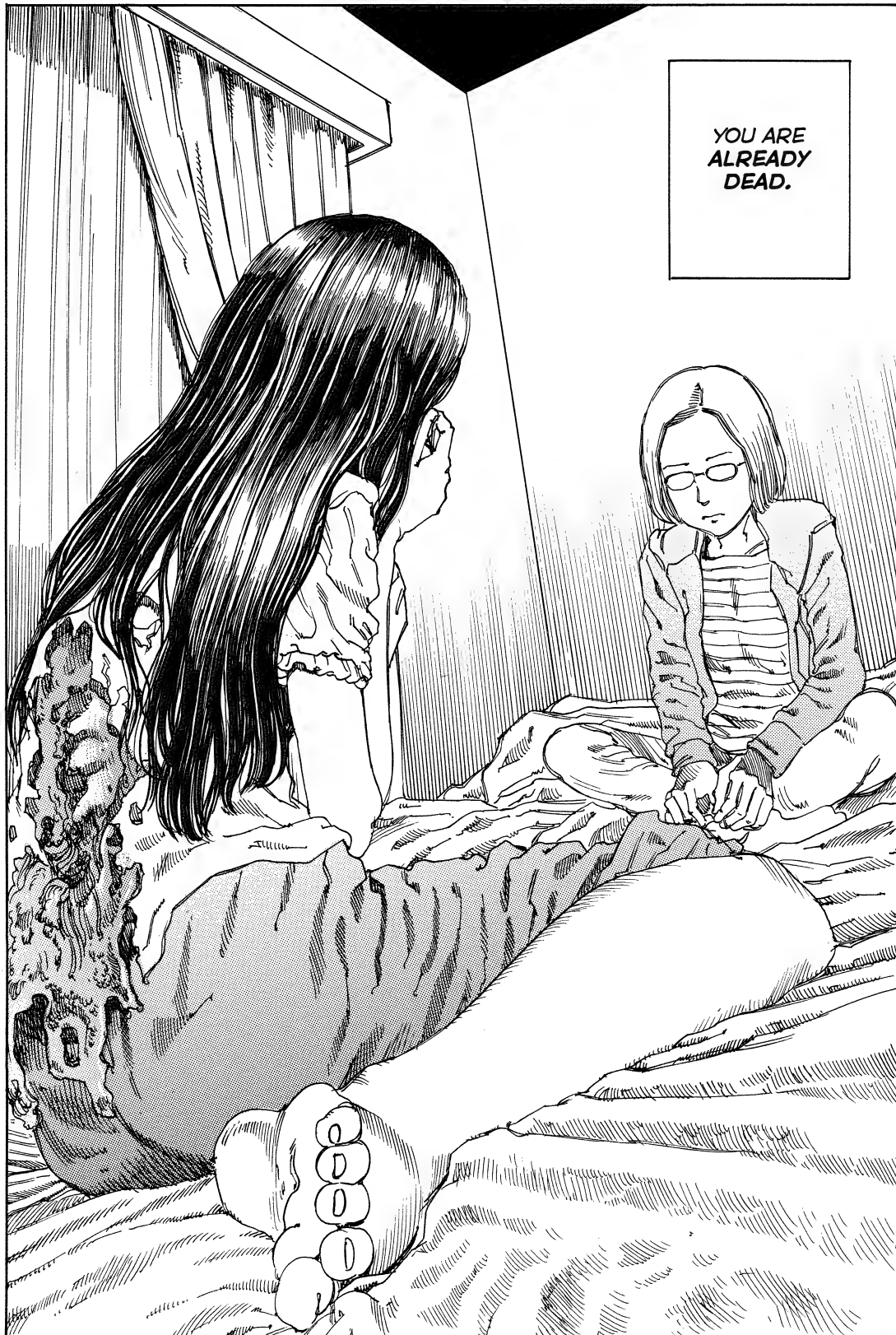


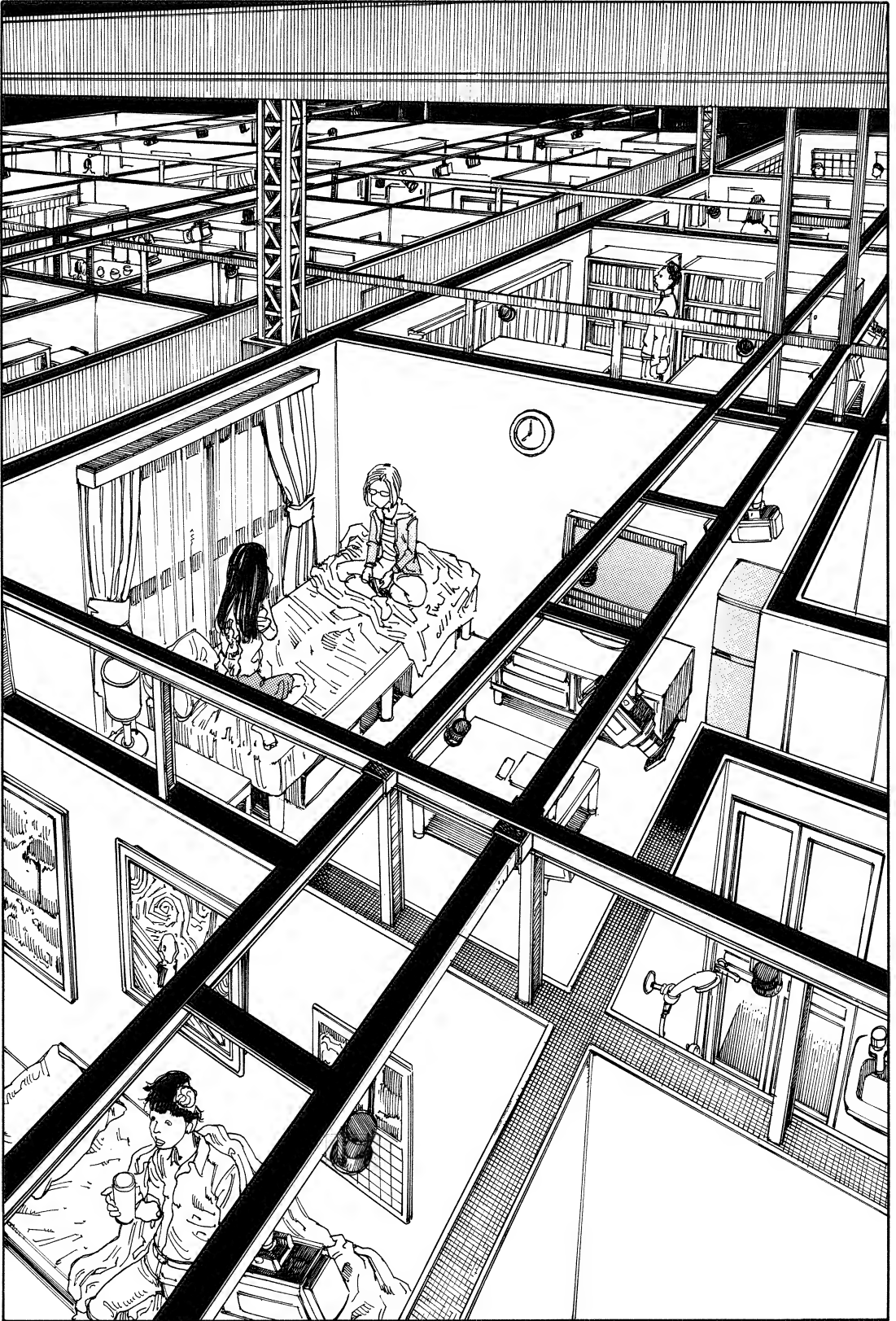


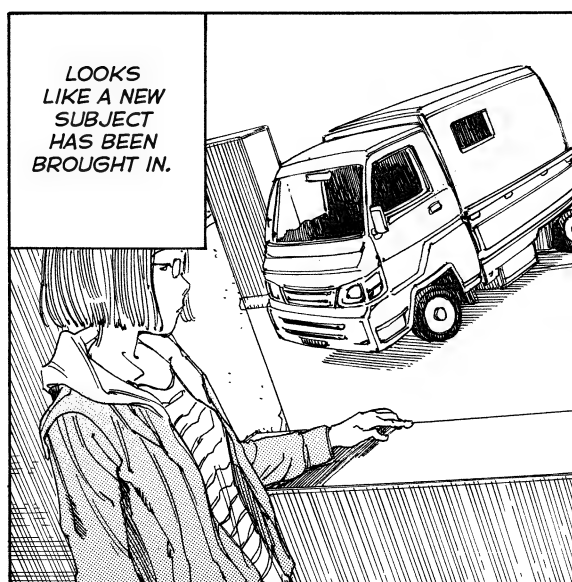
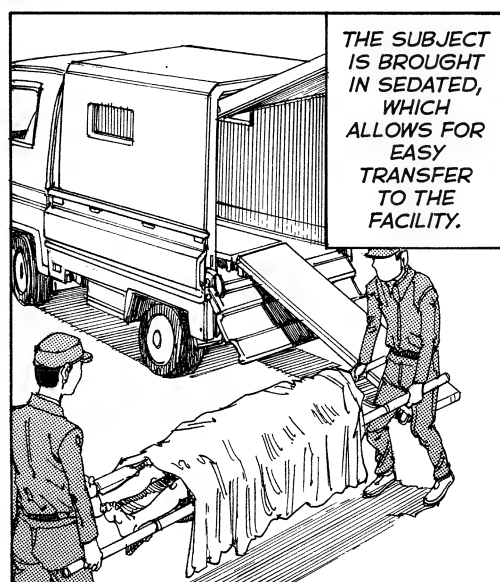
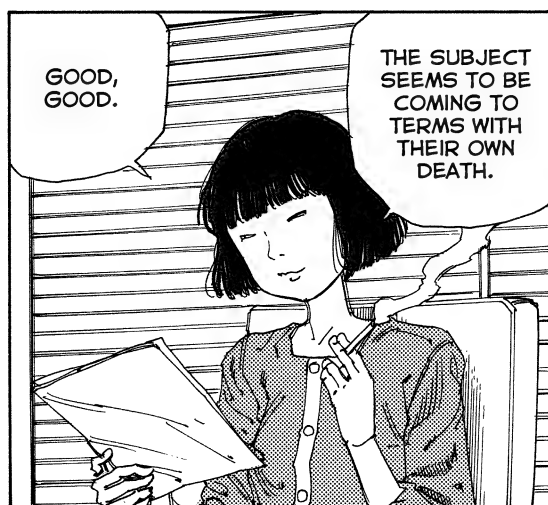




**YOU ARE
ALREADY
DEAD.**







IT'S NOT A
PERFECT
RECREATION,
BUT THEIR
MEMORIES ARE
IMPAIRED.

A SINGLE ROOM
IN THE FACILITY
RECREATES
THE SUBJECT'S
LIVING
ENVIRONMENT
AS CLOSELY
AS POSSIBLE.

THE SUBJECT
AWAKENS,
ASSUMES
THEY ARE IN
THEIR OWN
ROOM, AND
RESUMES
THEIR
ROUTINE.



THAT'S
RIGHT, THE
SUBJECTS
BROUGHT
TO THIS
FACILITY...

FROM THERE,
THE ONLY
THING LEFT
IS TO MAKE
THEM AWARE
THAT THEY ARE
DECEASED.



ARE
THE
LIVING
DEAD.

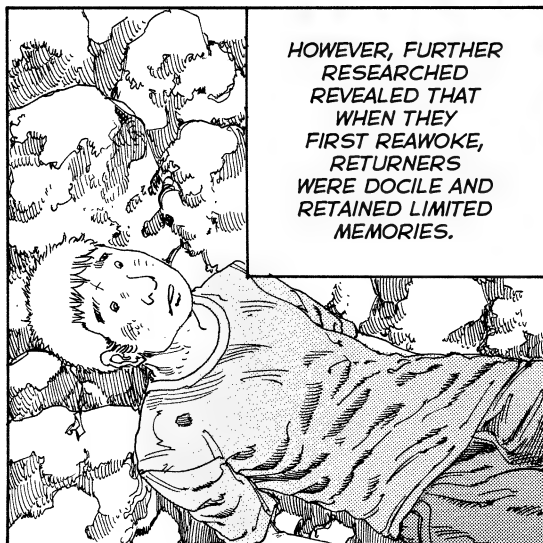




THE
RETURNERS,
AS THIS
MYSTERIOUS
PHENOMENON IS
CALLED, FIRST
STARTED ABOUT
EIGHTEEN
YEARS AGO.
WE STILL
DON'T FULLY
UNDERSTAND
IT.



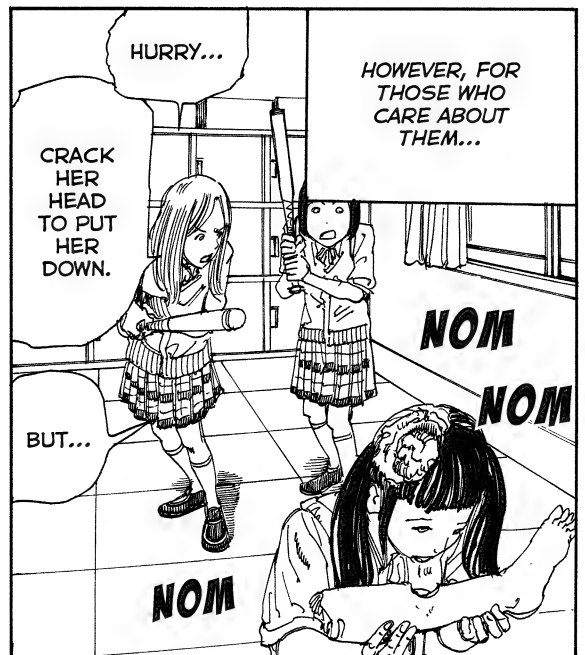
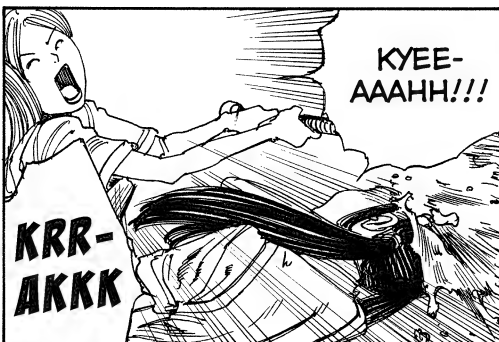
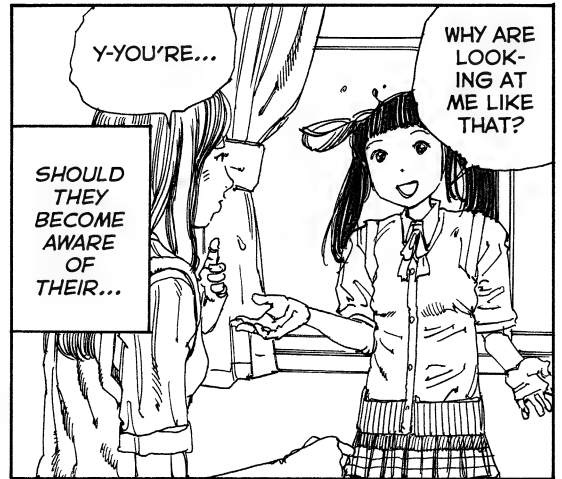
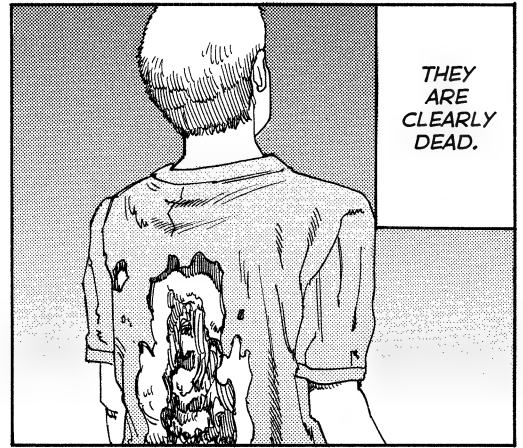
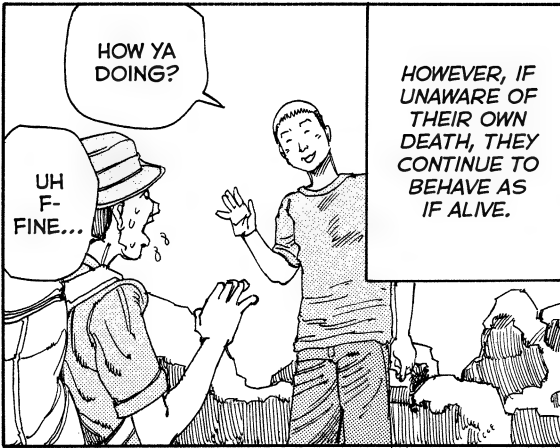
YOU'D
THINK THIS
WOULD
CAUSE
WORLDWIDE
PANIC.



HOWEVER, FURTHER
RESEARCHED
REVEALED THAT
WHEN THEY
FIRST REAWOKE,
RETURNERS
WERE DOCILE AND
RETAINED LIMITED
MEMORIES.

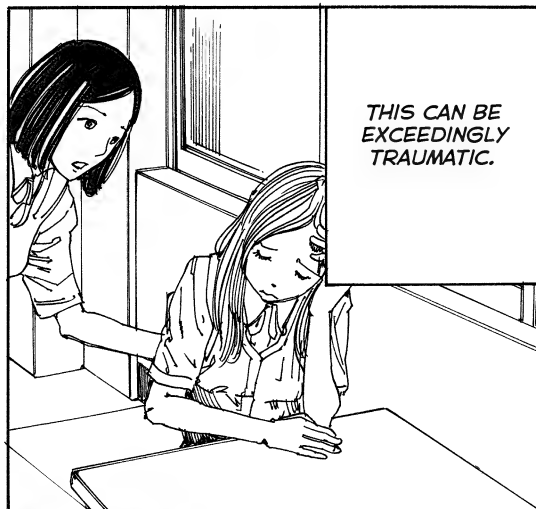


AT FIRST,
THE ONLY
SOLUTION
WAS TO
ELIMINATE
THE
SUBJECTS.

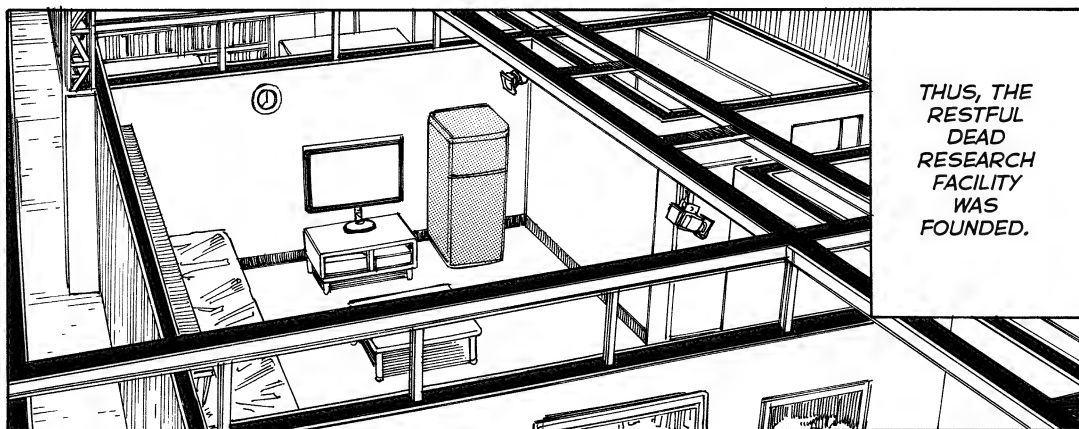




THE HEAVY-
HANDED
APPROACH
OF THE
MILITARY AND
POLICE CAN
BE PARTICULARLY DIS-
TRESSING.



THIS CAN BE
EXCEEDINGLY
TRAUMATIC.



THUS, THE
RESTFUL
DEAD
RESEARCH
FACILITY
WAS
FOUNDED.

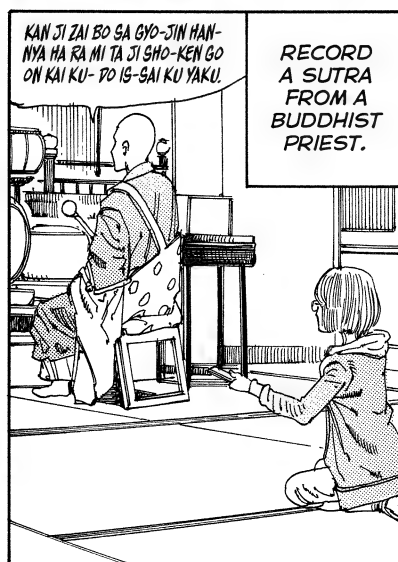
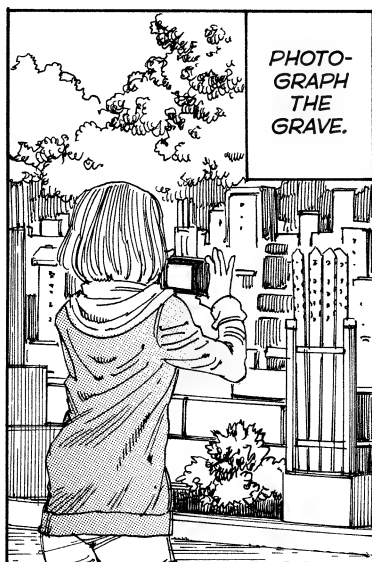
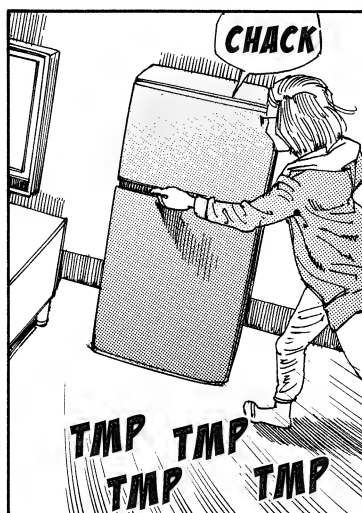
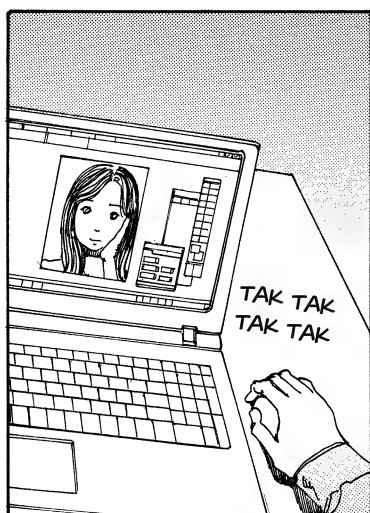
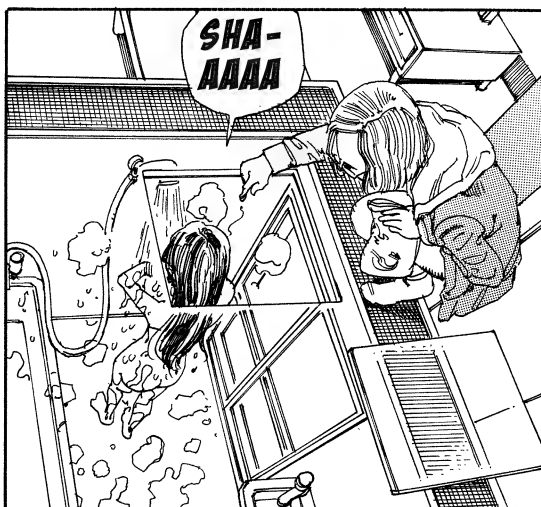
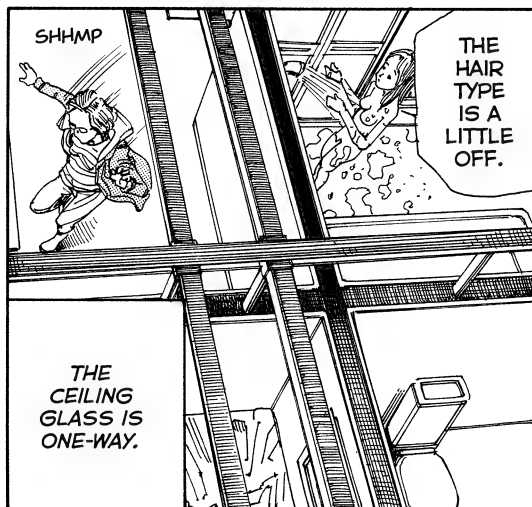


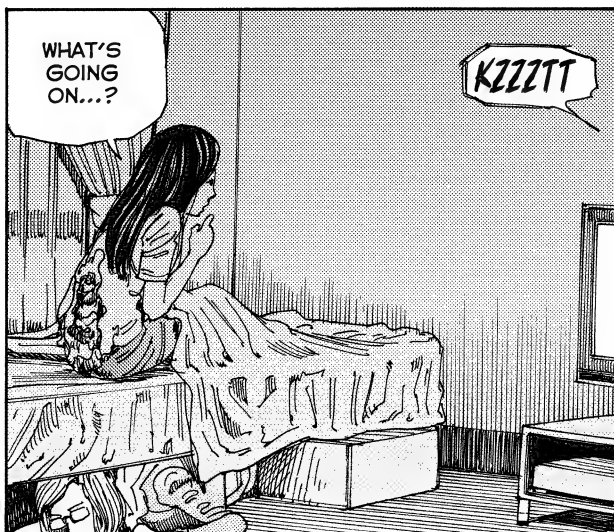
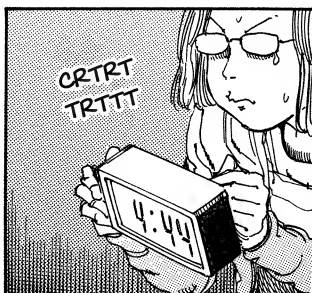
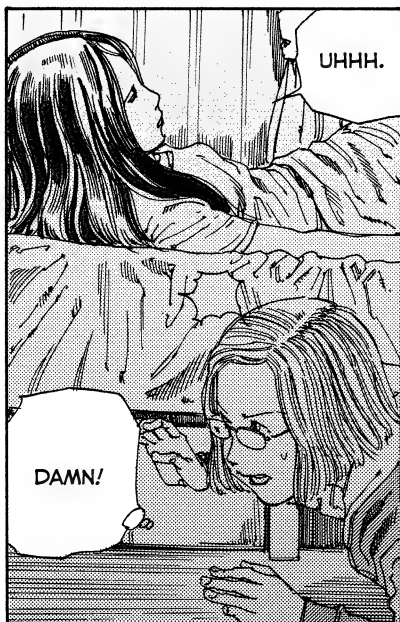
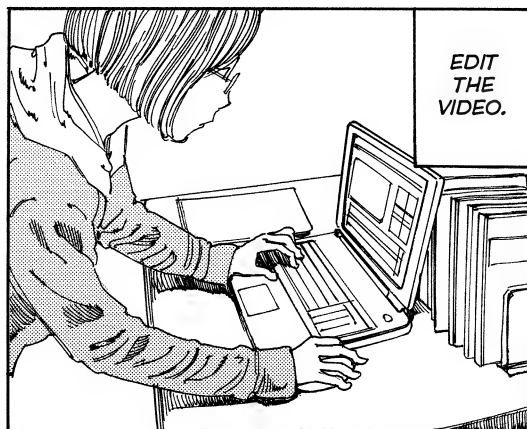
UNN...



OF
COURSE.

NISHIMURA,
YOU
RESEMBLE
THE
SUBJECT'S
FRIEND,
SO I AM
ASSIGNING
HER CASE
TO YOU.



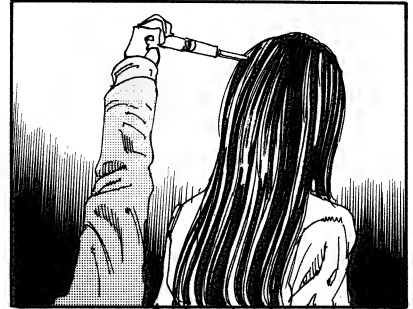
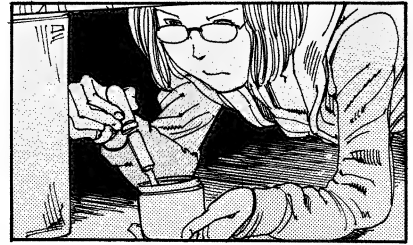




SWOOSH



I'M
SWEATING...

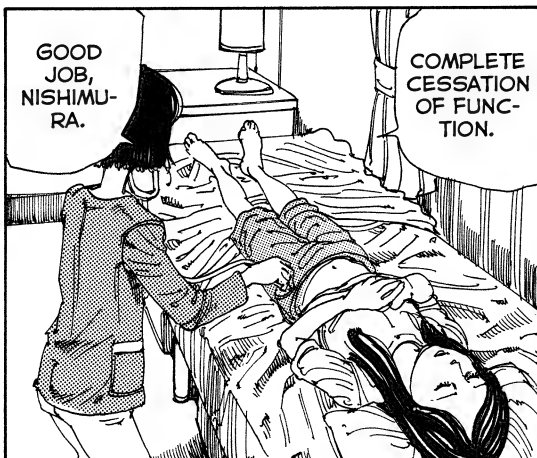


THANK YOU
FOR EVERY-
THING.

I SHOULDN'T
HAVE COME
TO THIS
ROOM.

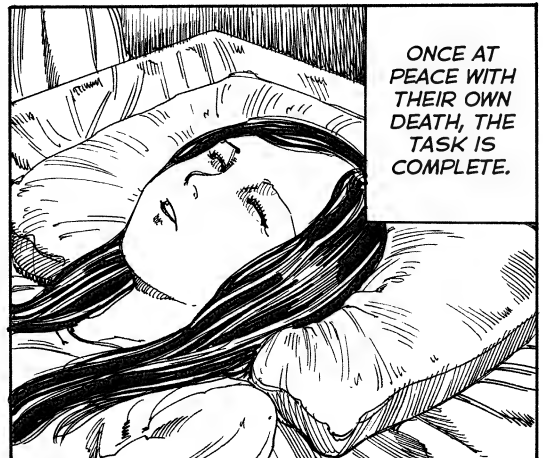
I DON'T...
FEEL GOOD.
LIKE I'M
DYING...

IF DONE WELL,
THE SUBJECT
INvariably
BECOMES
EXHAUSTED
AND ACCEPTS
DEATH.

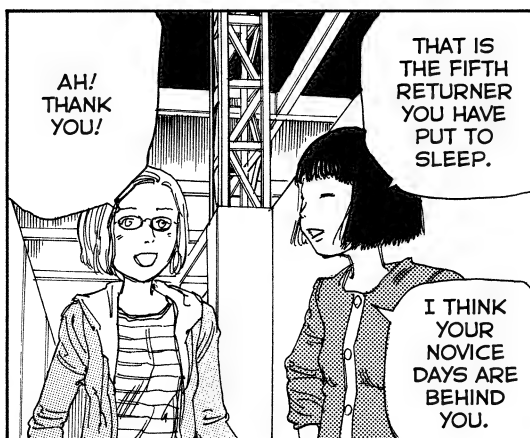
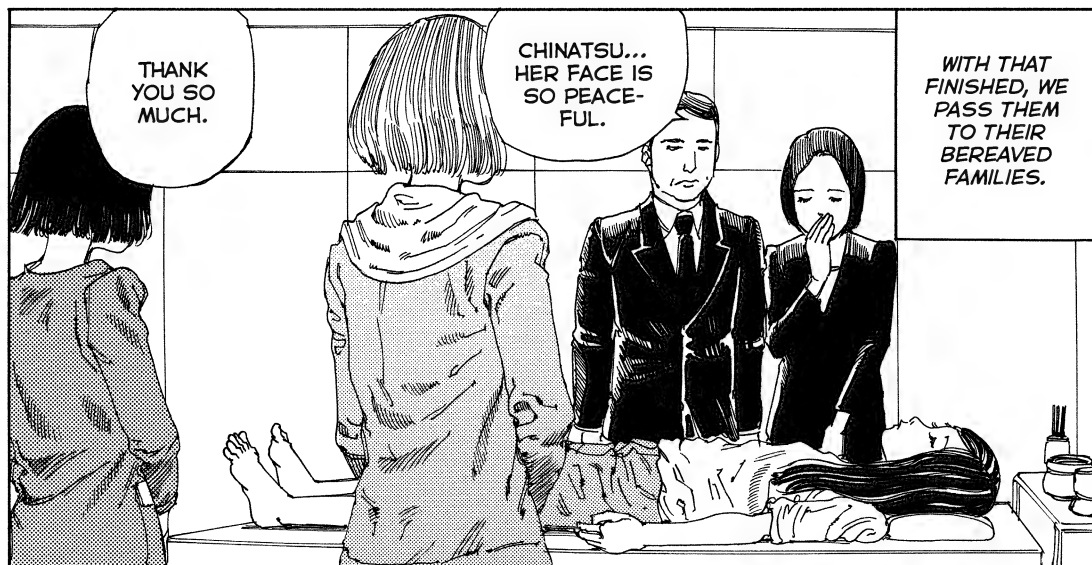


GOOD
JOB,
NISHIMU-
RA.

COMPLETE
CESSATION
OF FUNC-
TION.

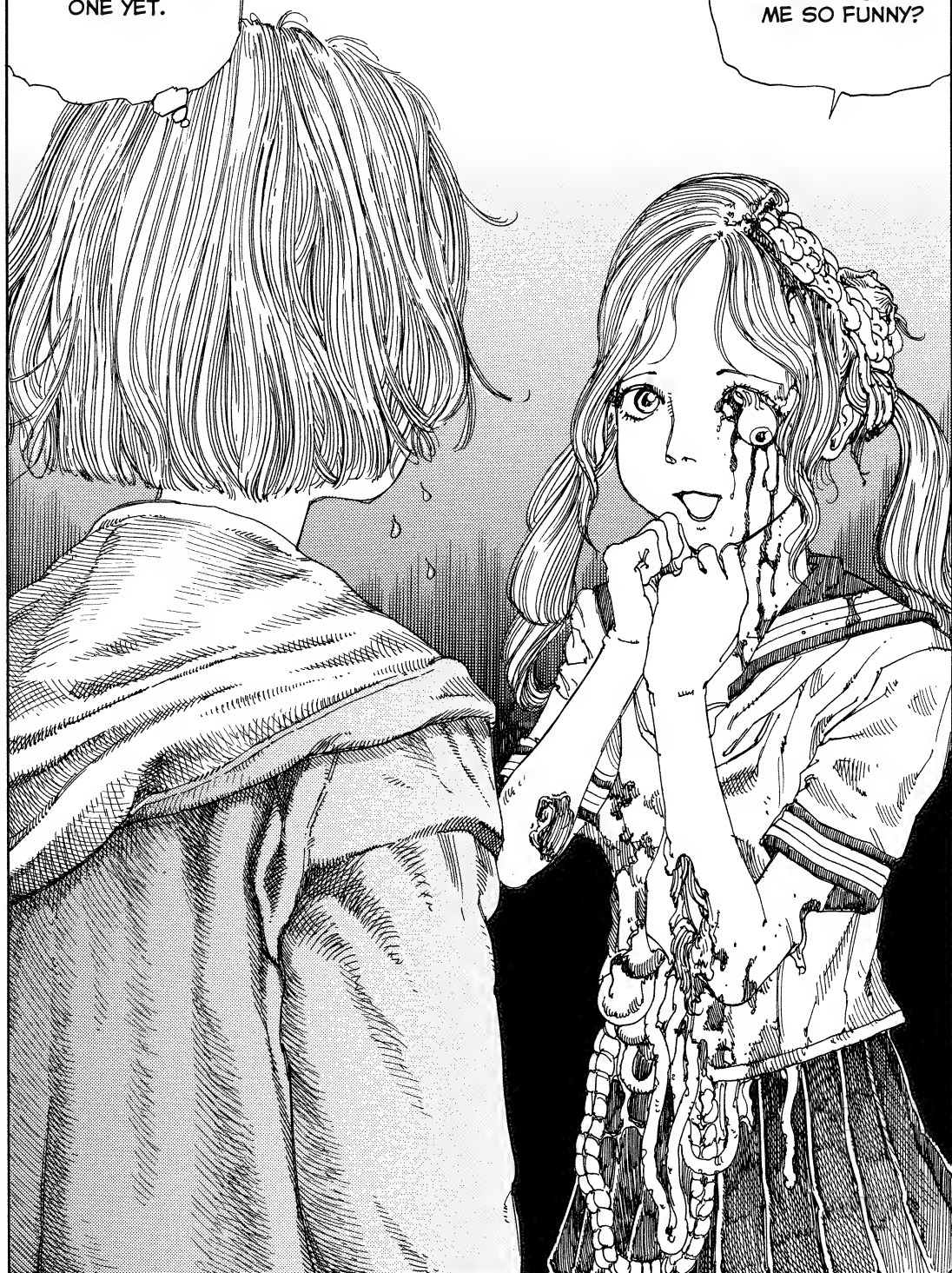


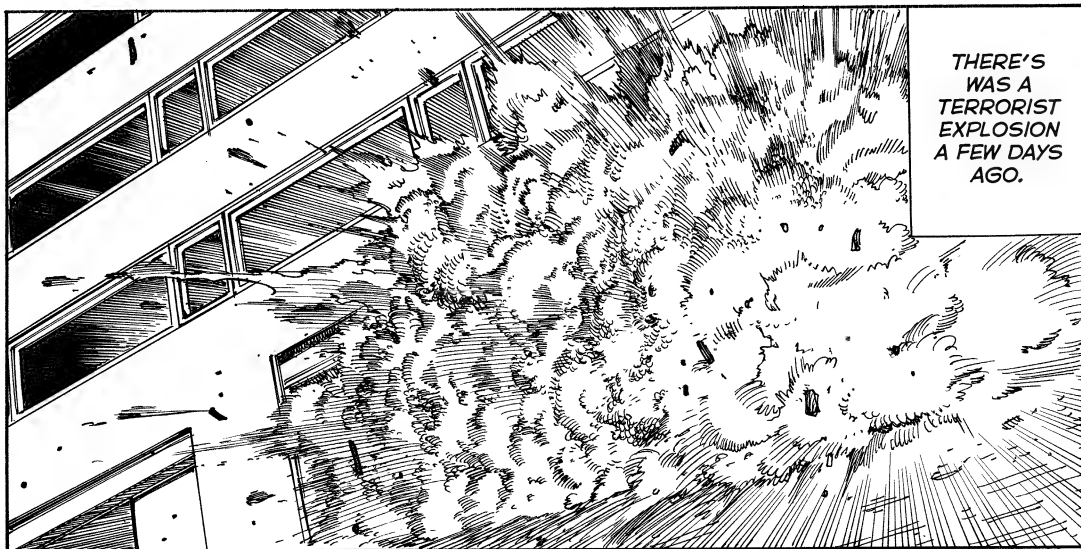
ONCE AT
PEACE WITH
THEIR OWN
DEATH, THE
TASK IS
COMPLETE.



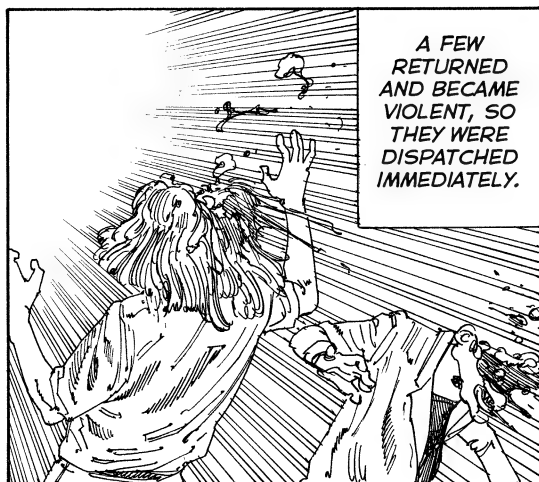
THIS... IS
GOING TO BE
THE TOUGHEST
ONE YET.

WHAT'S
WRONG?
WHY ARE YOU
LOOKING AT
ME SO FUNNY?

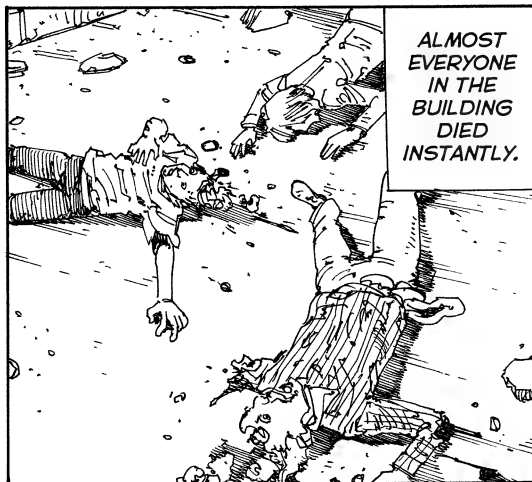




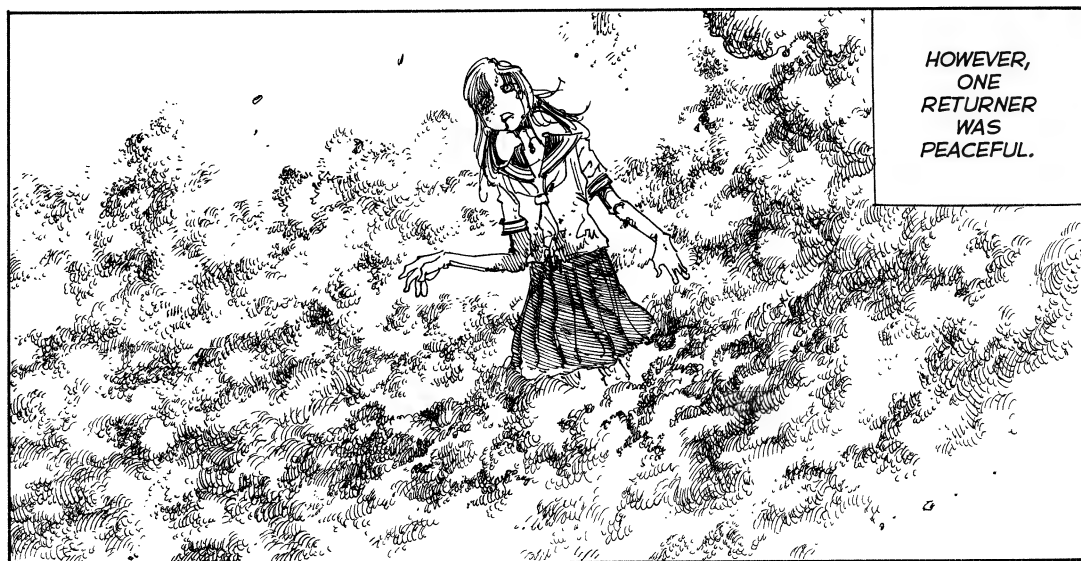
THERE'S
WAS A
TERRORIST
EXPLOSION
A FEW DAYS
AGO.



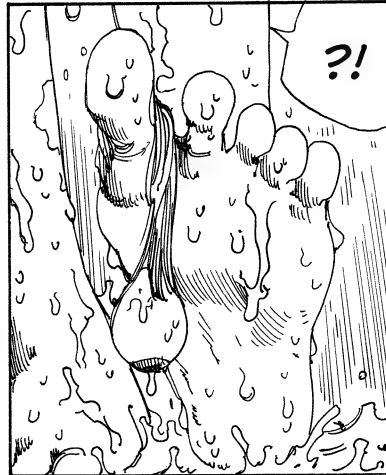
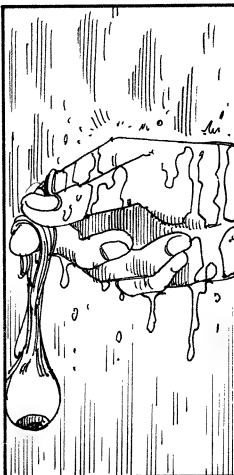
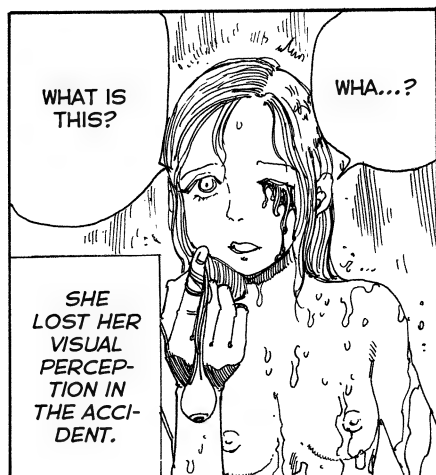
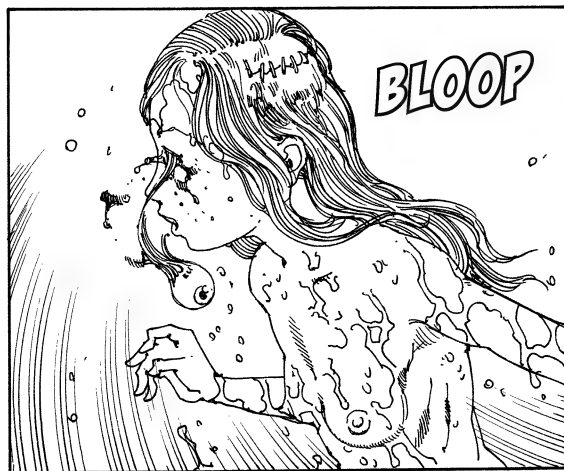
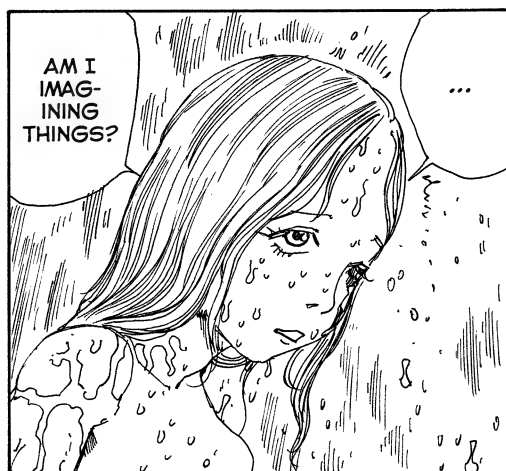
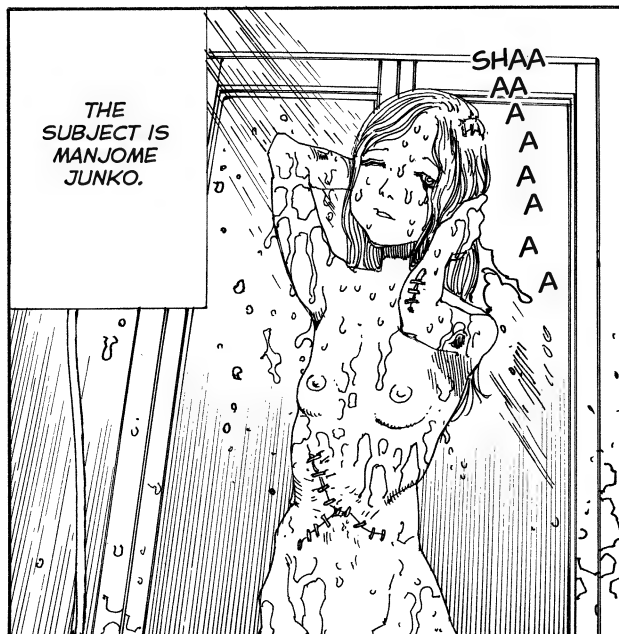
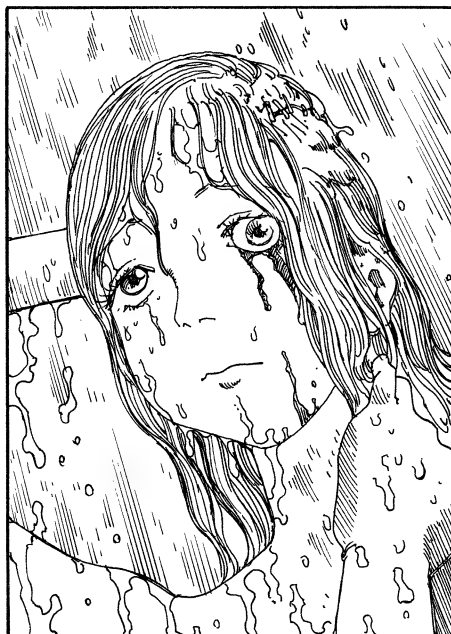
A FEW
RETURNED
AND BECAME
VIOLENT, SO
THEY WERE
DISPATCHED
IMMEDIATELY.

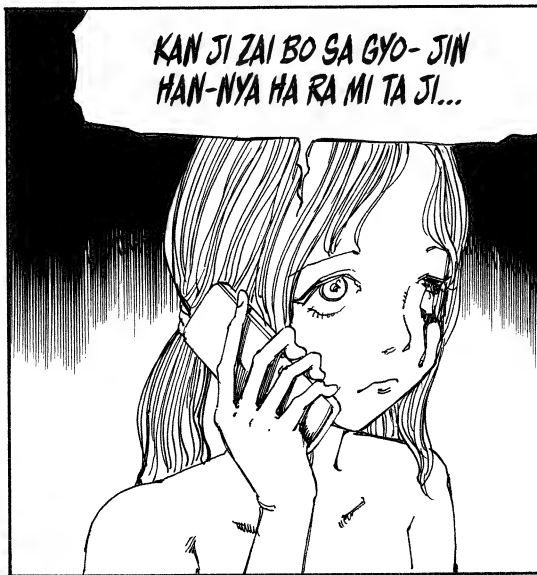
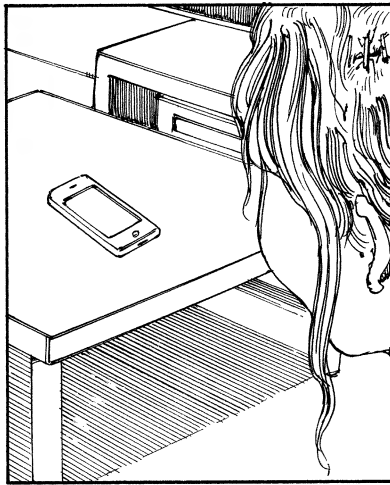
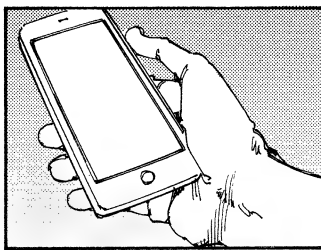
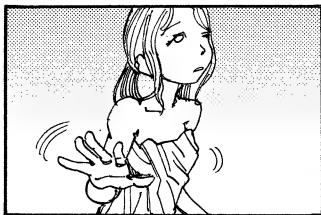
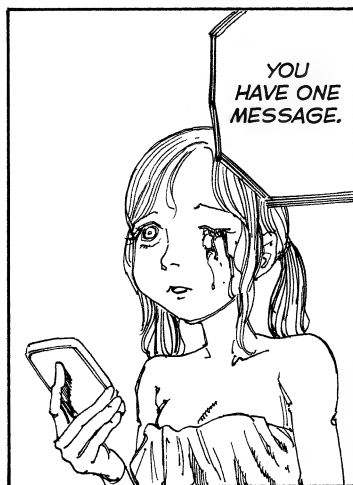
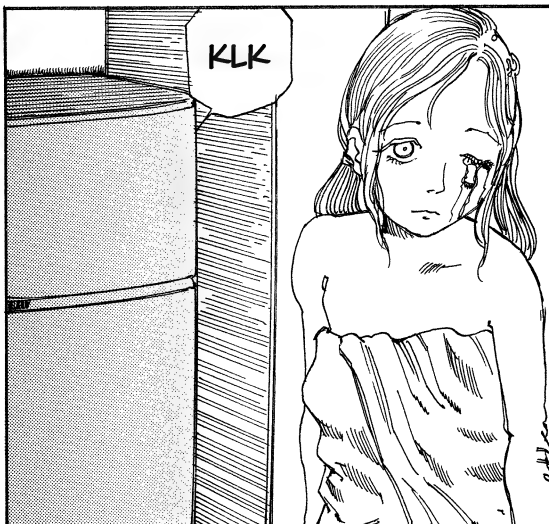
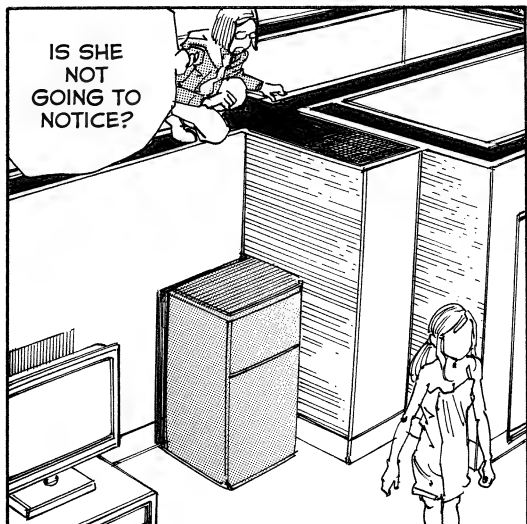


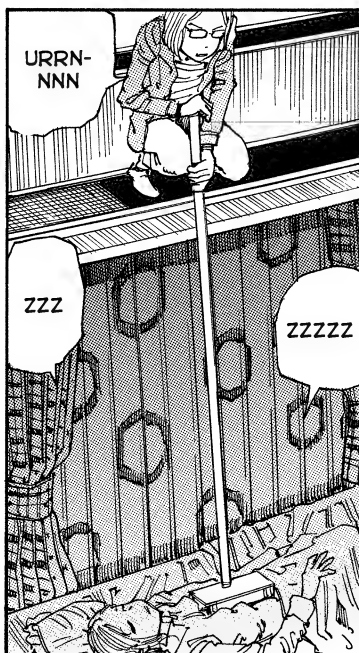
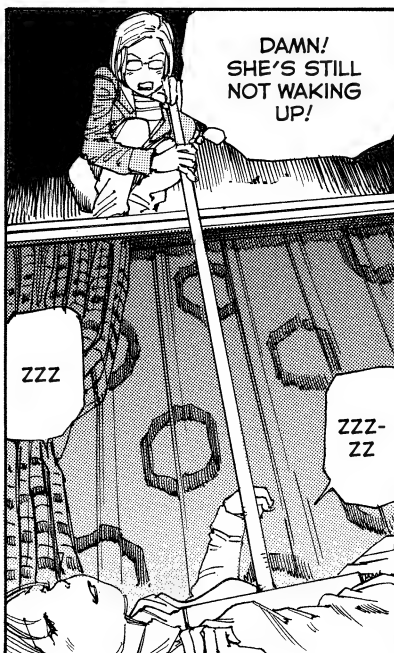
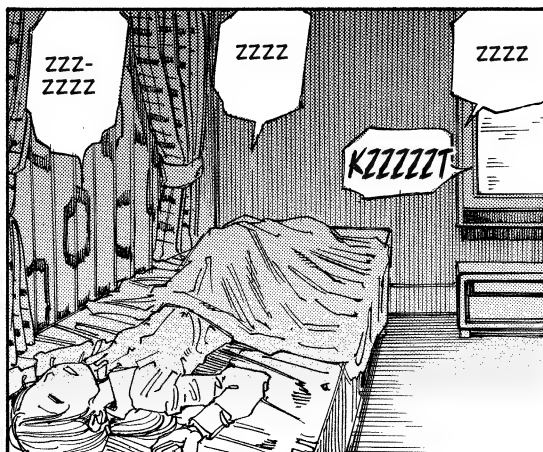
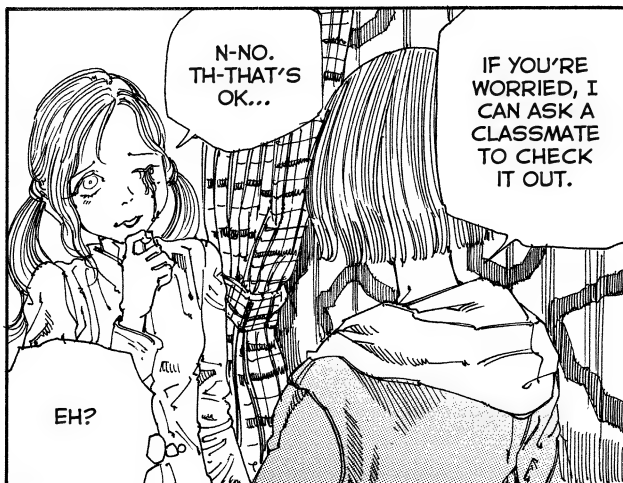
ALMOST
EVERYONE
IN THE
BUILDING
DIED
INSTANTLY.

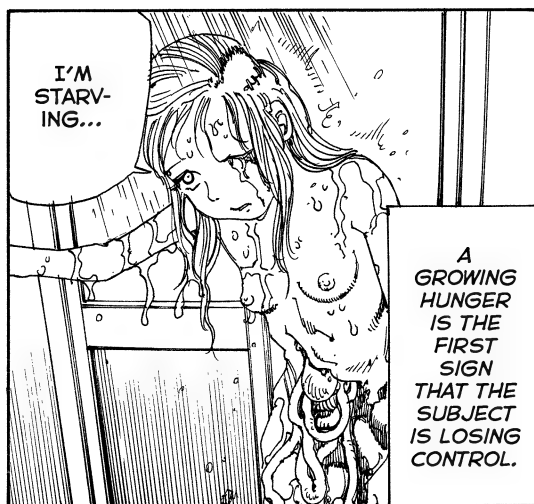
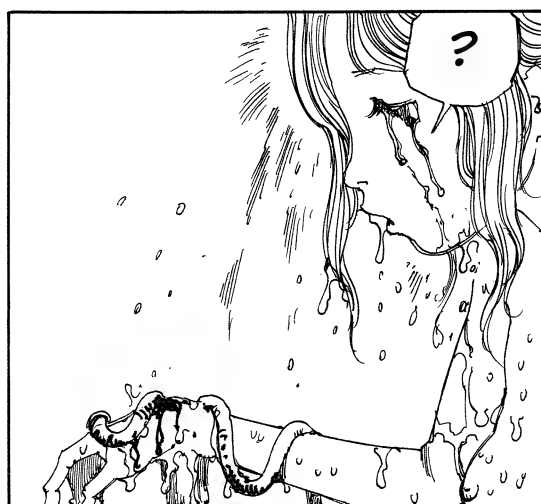
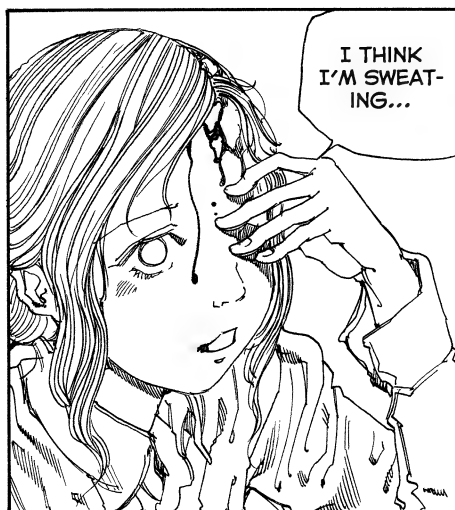
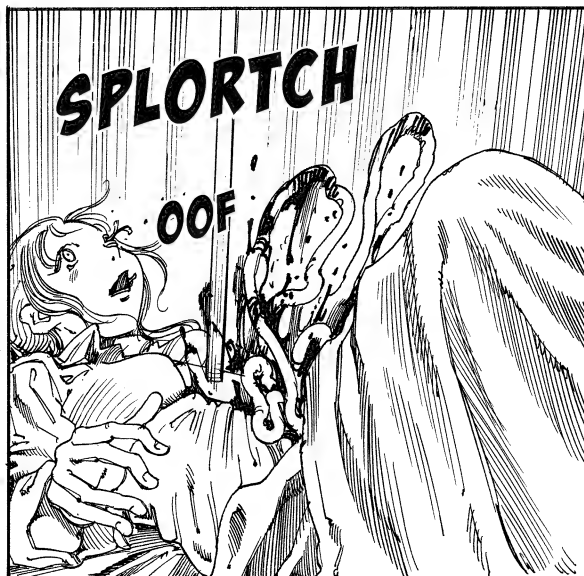


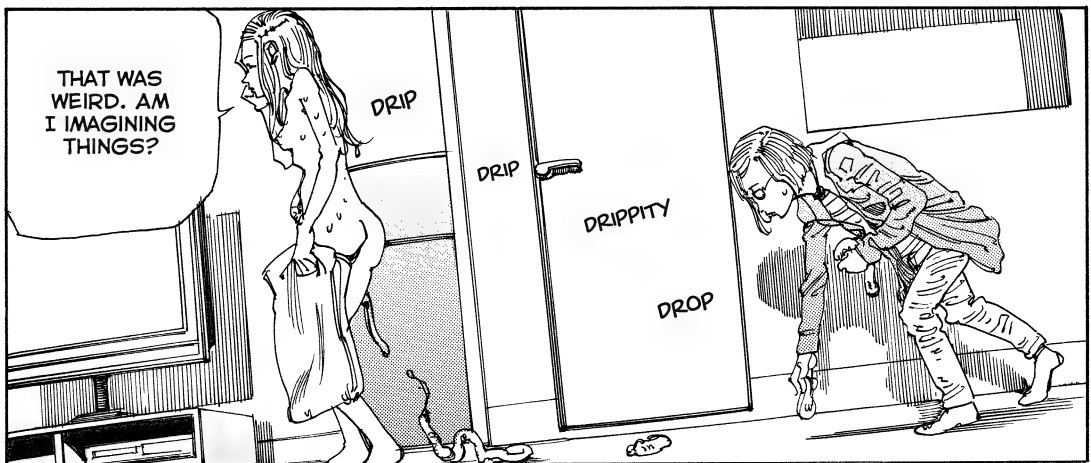
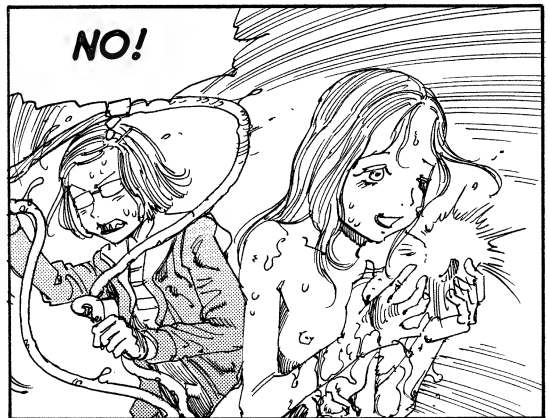
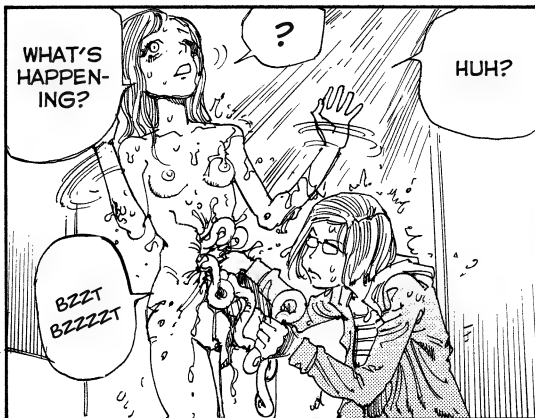
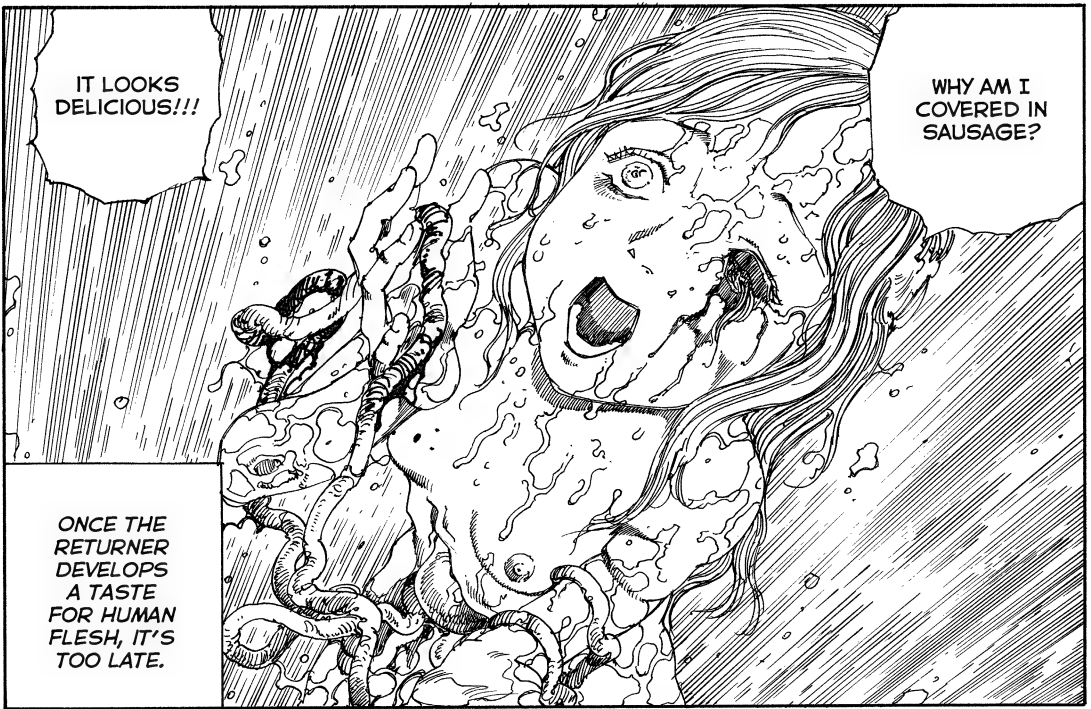
HOWEVER,
ONE
RETURNER
WAS
PEACEFUL.

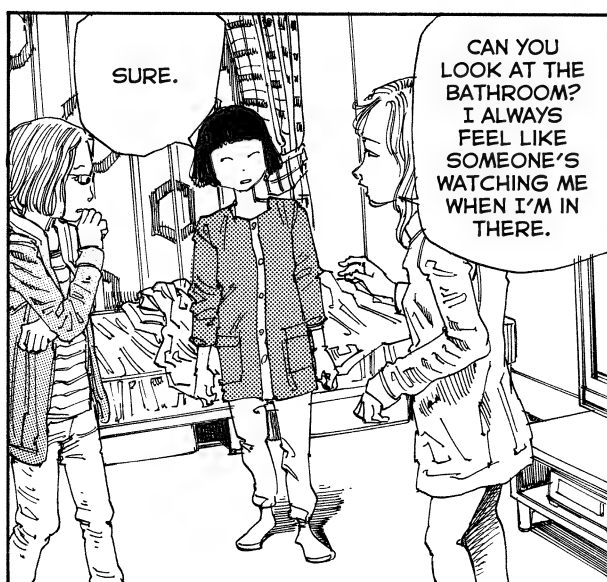
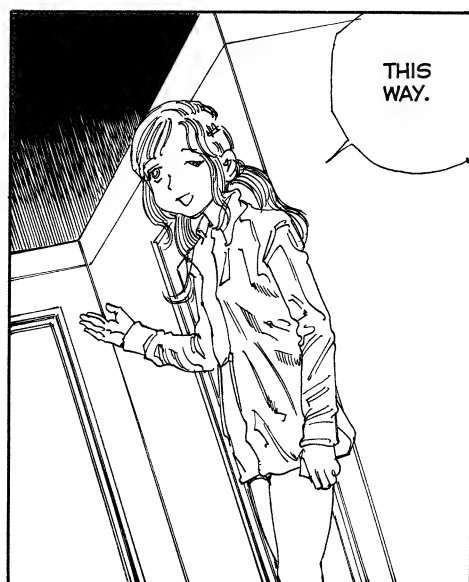
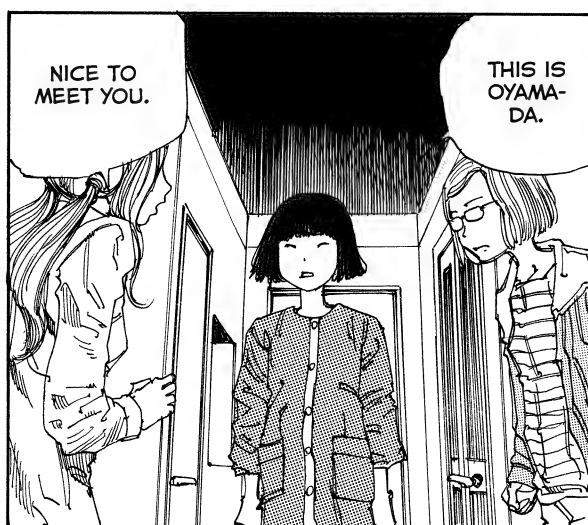
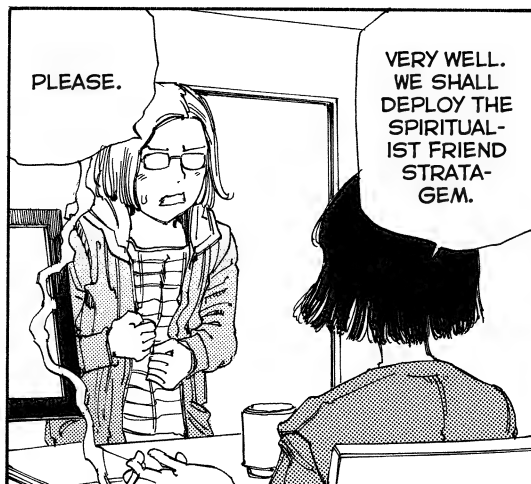


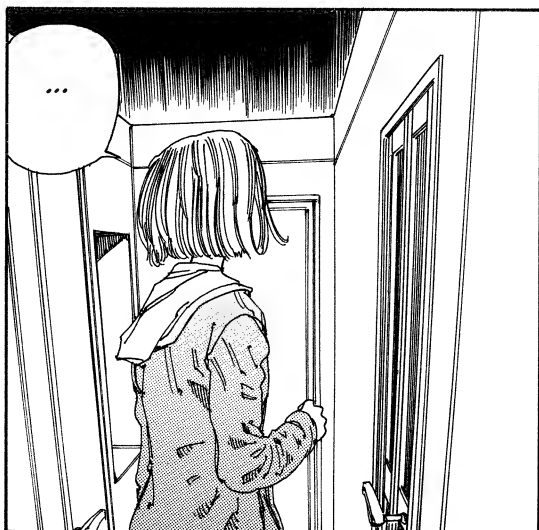
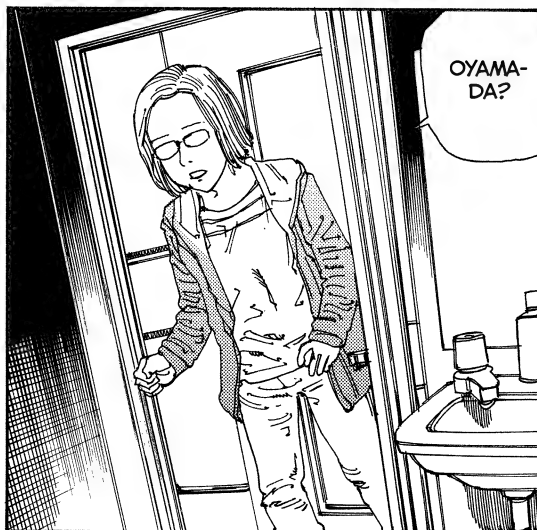


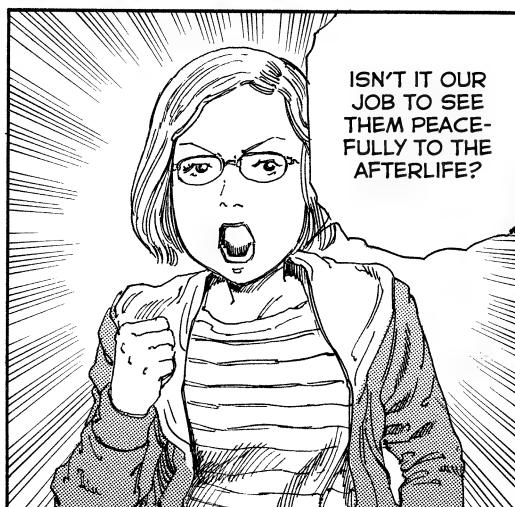
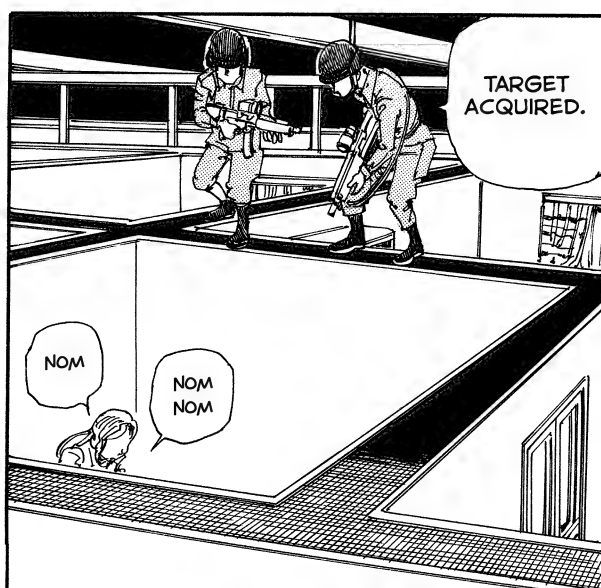
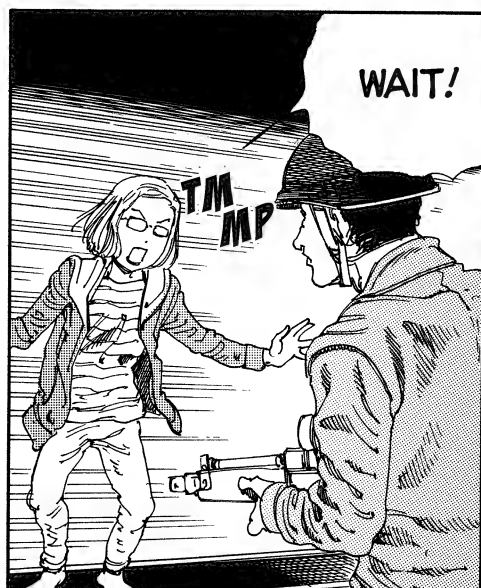
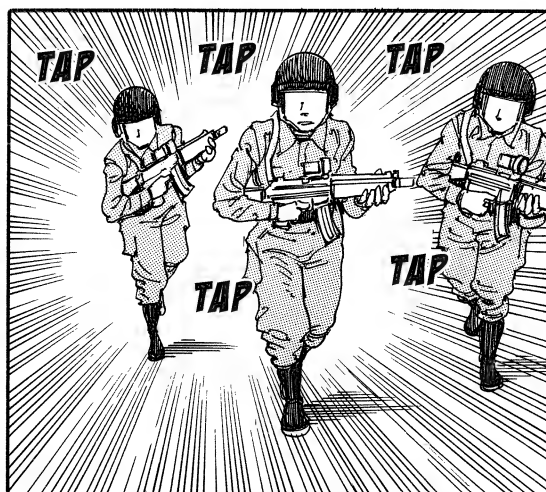


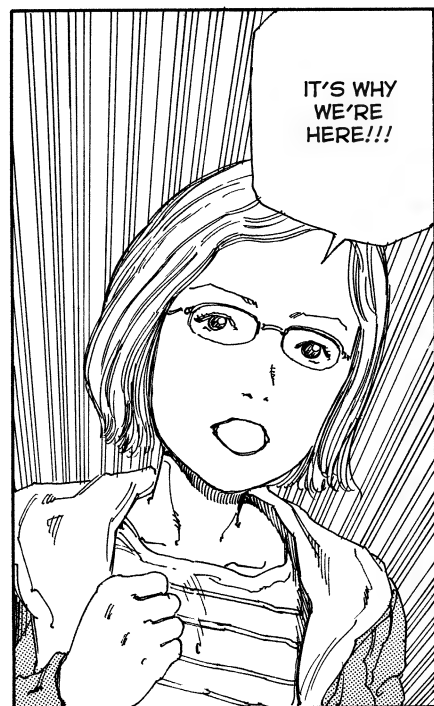
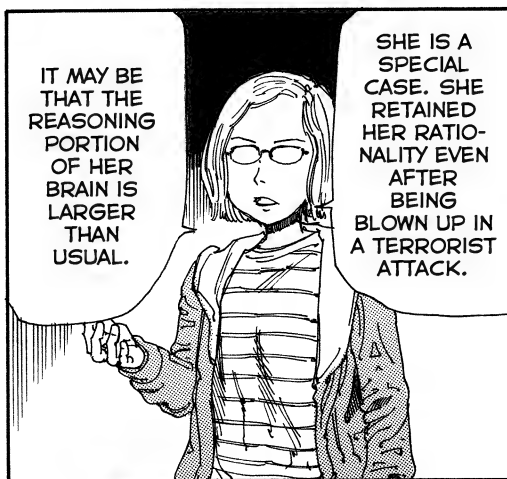
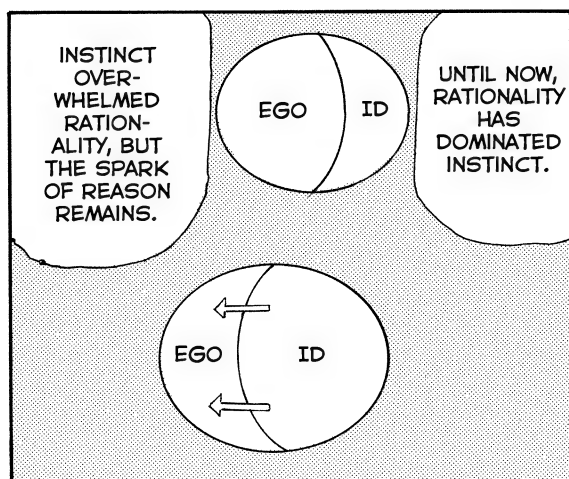
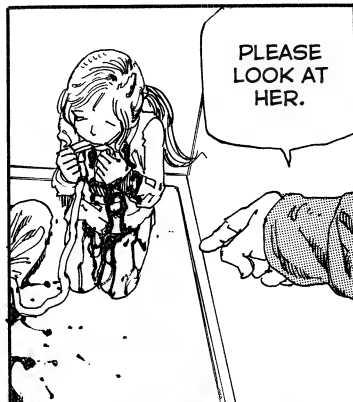
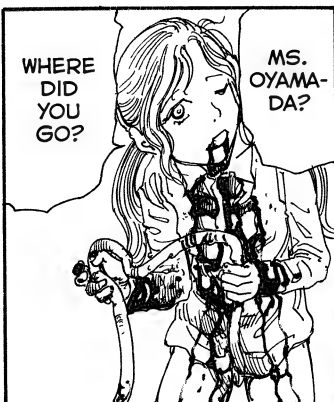
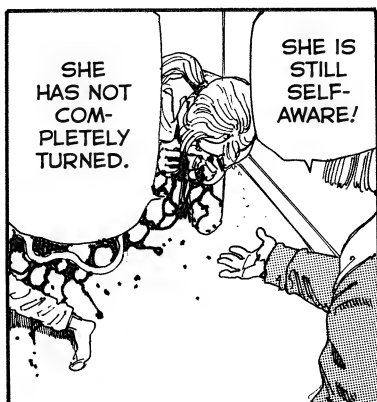


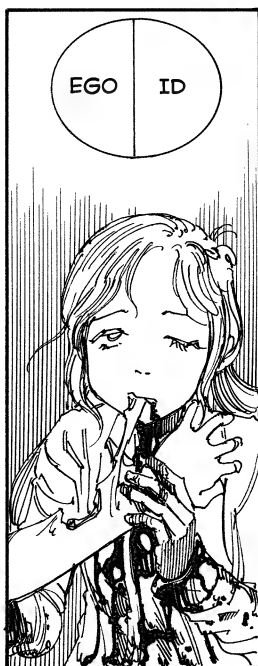
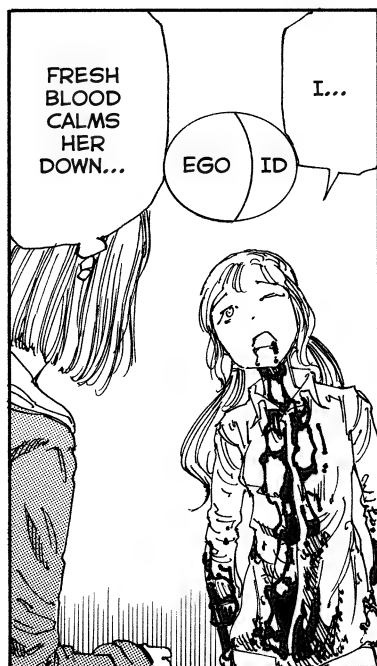
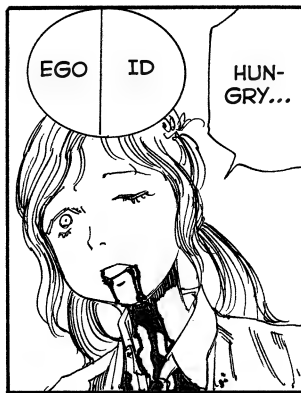
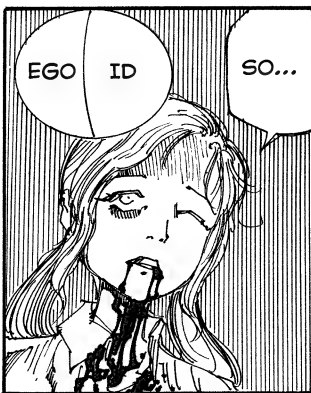
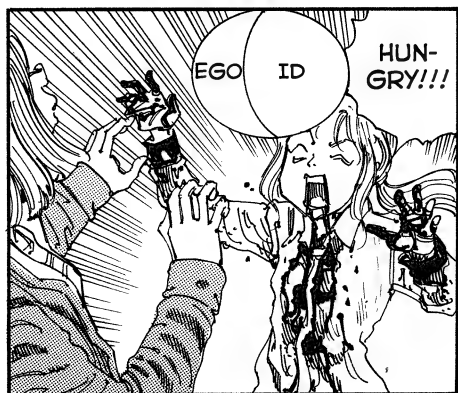
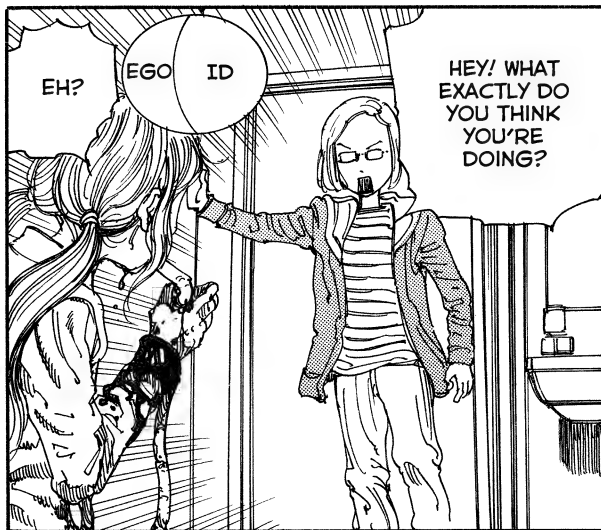
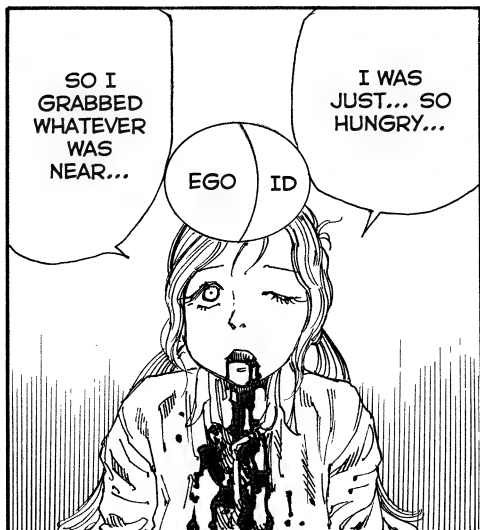


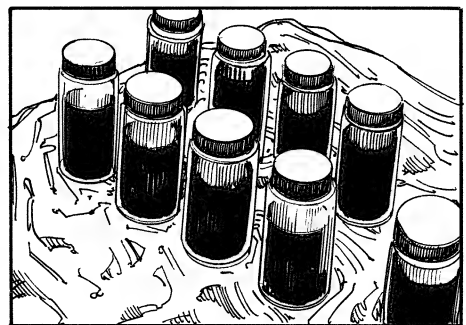
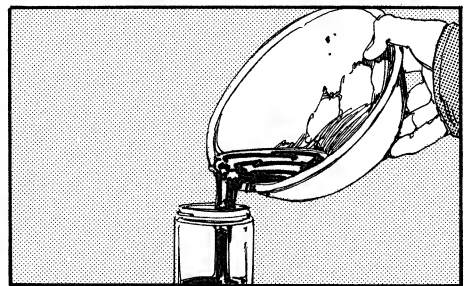
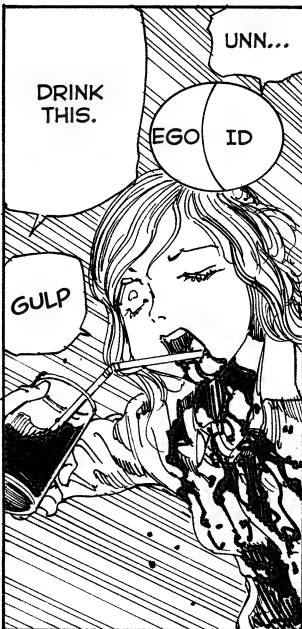
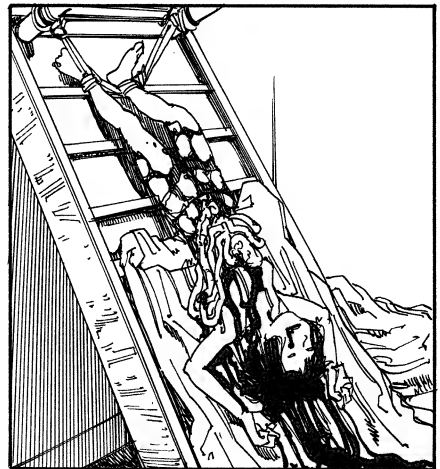
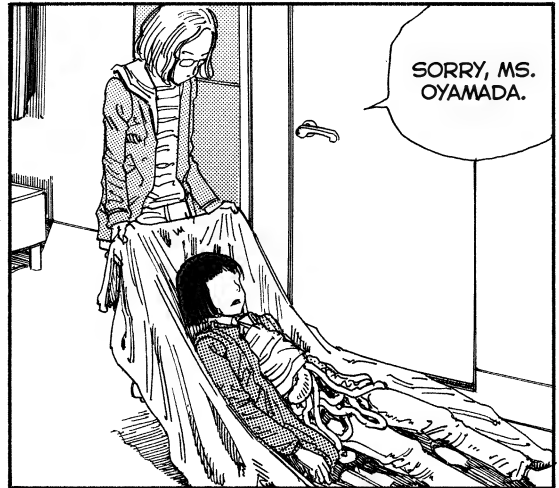
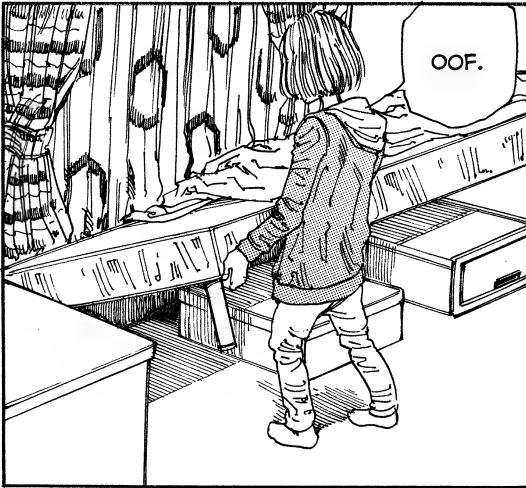


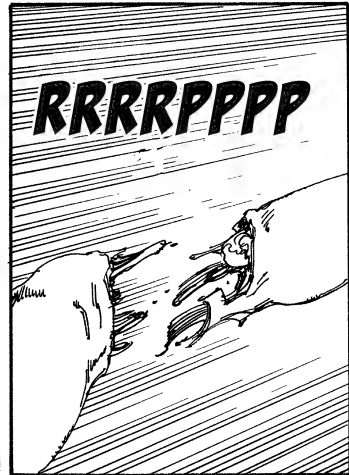
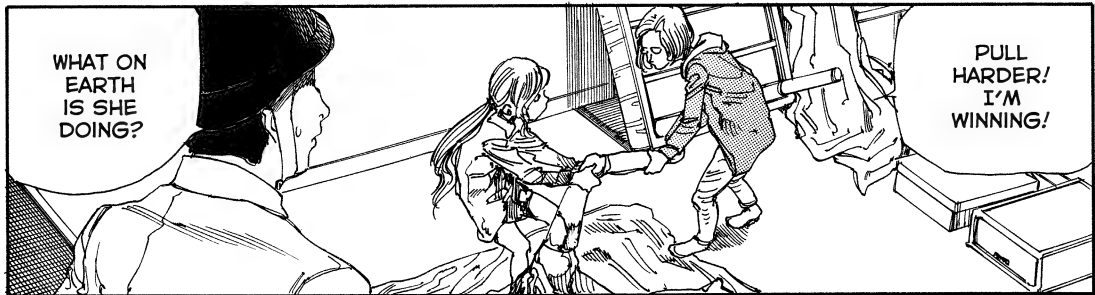
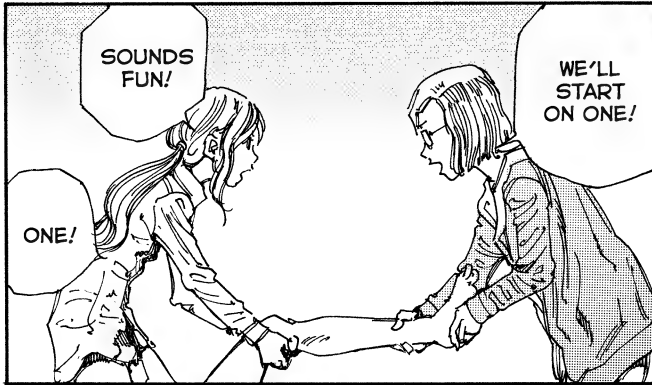
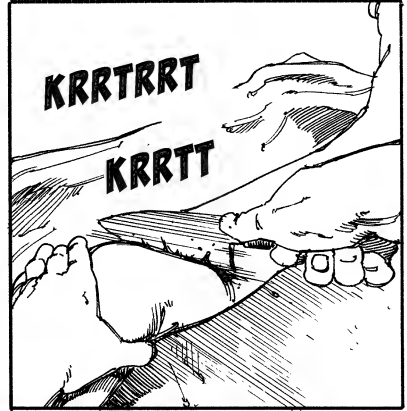
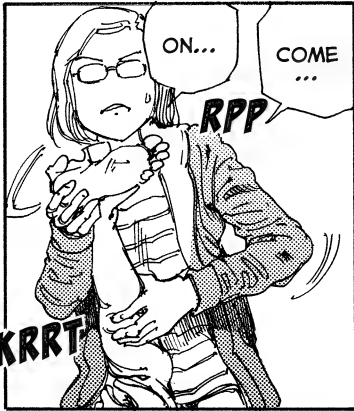


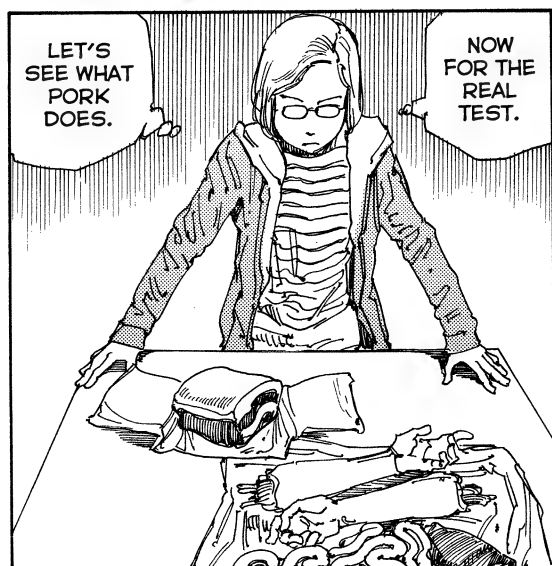
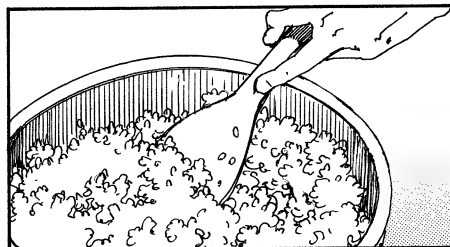
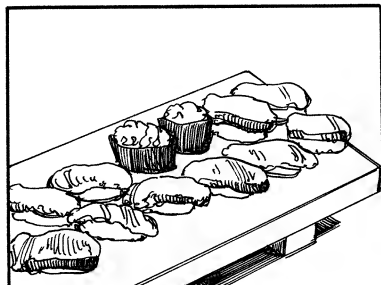
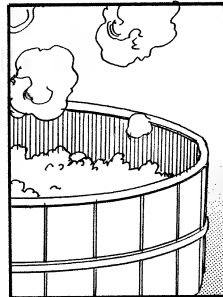
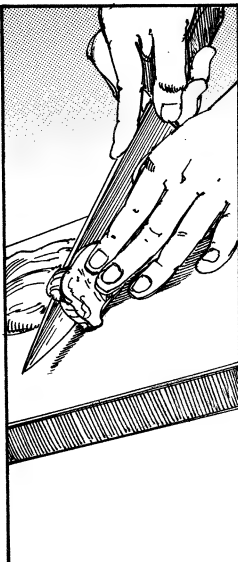
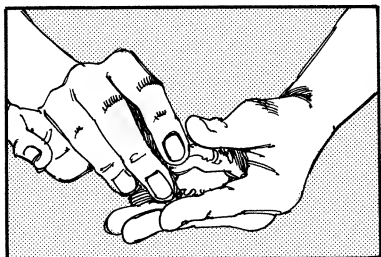
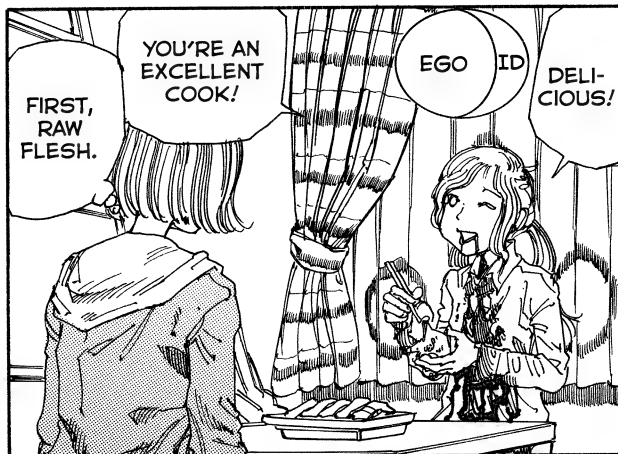
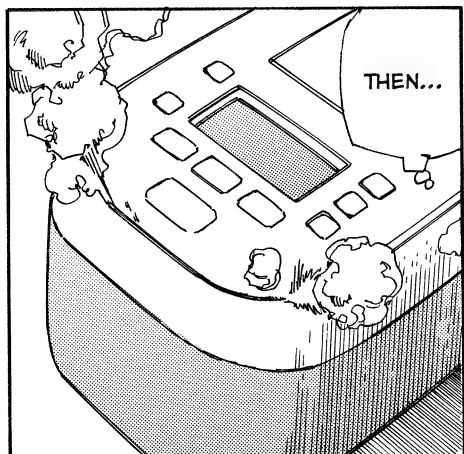


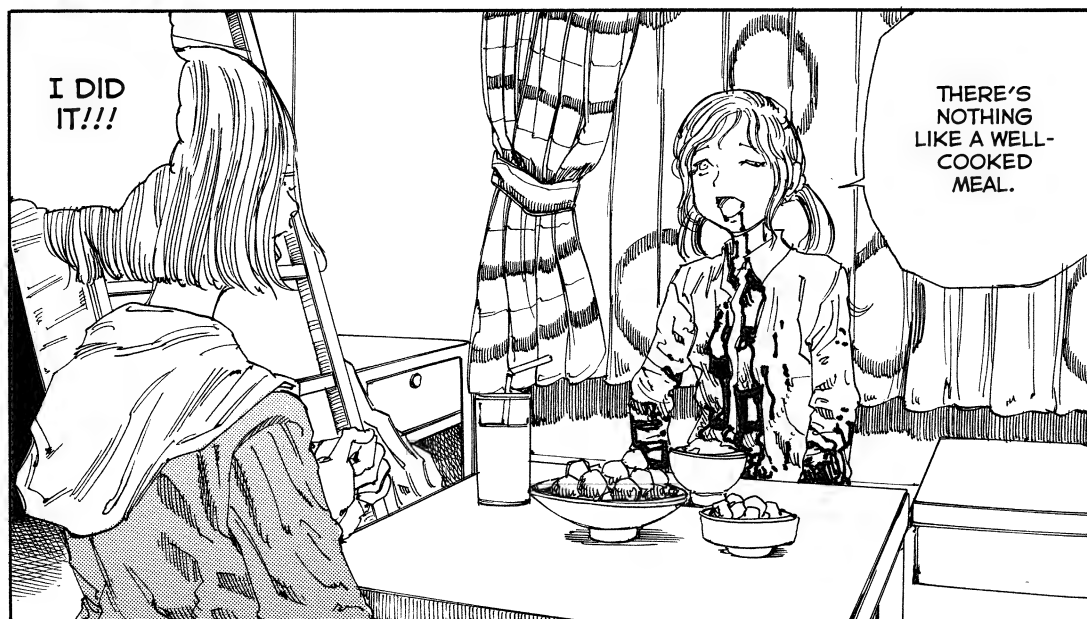
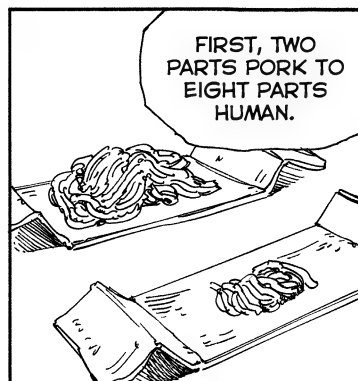
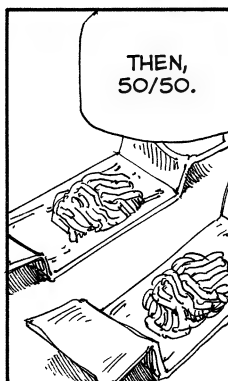
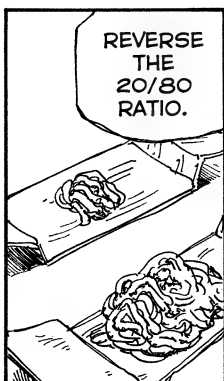
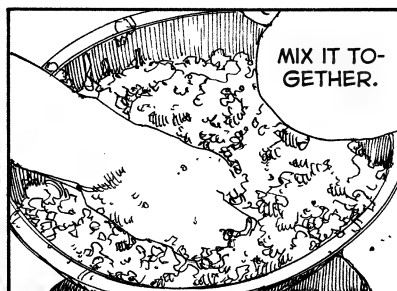
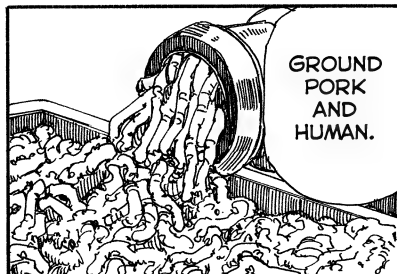
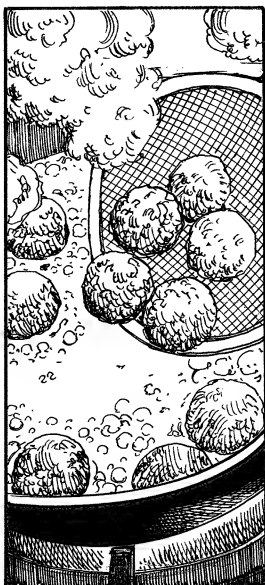
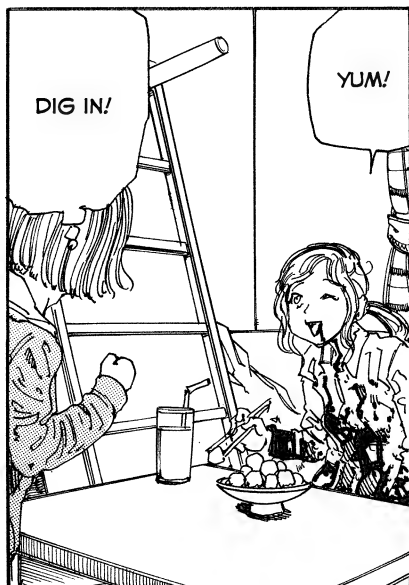


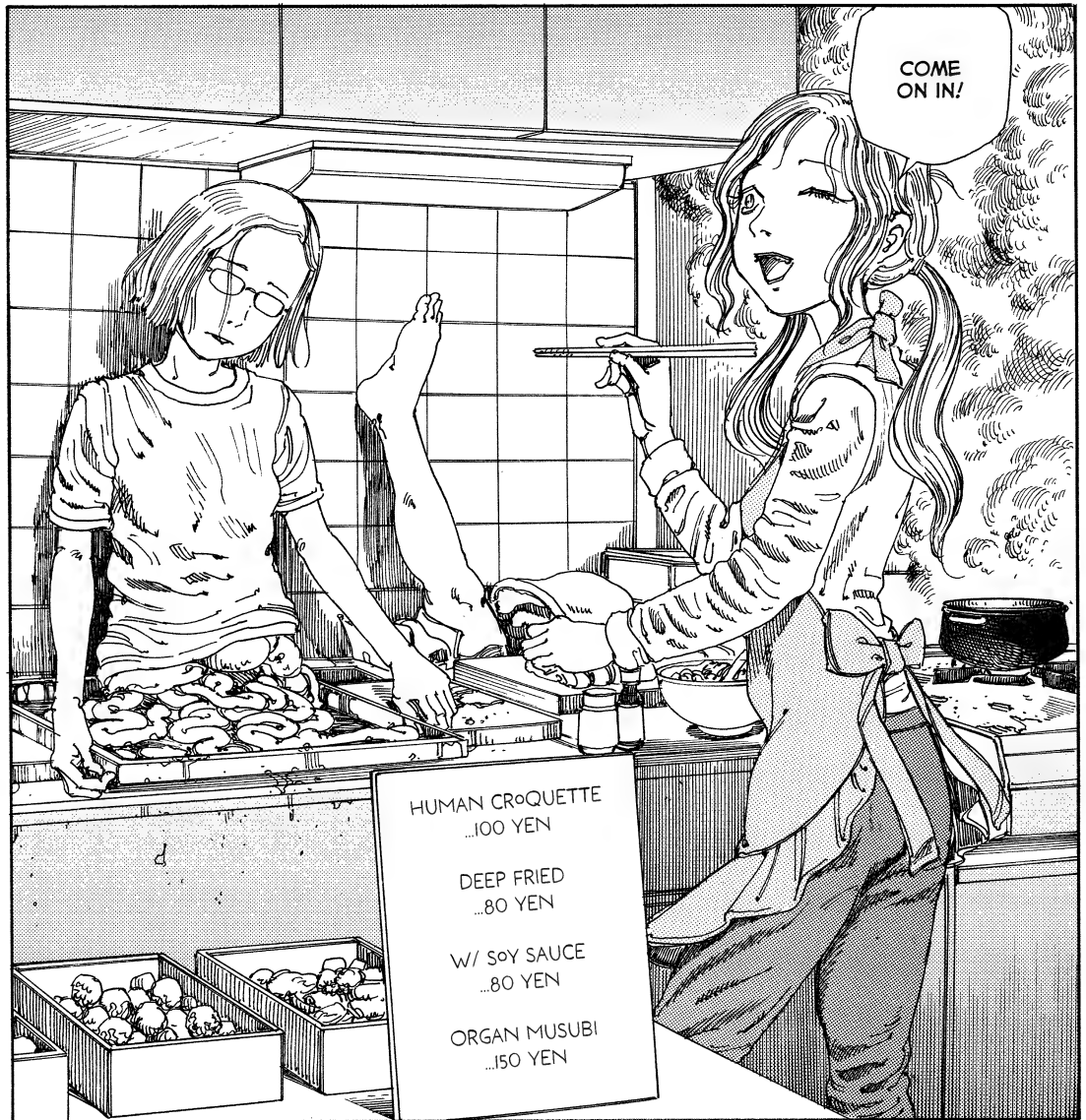
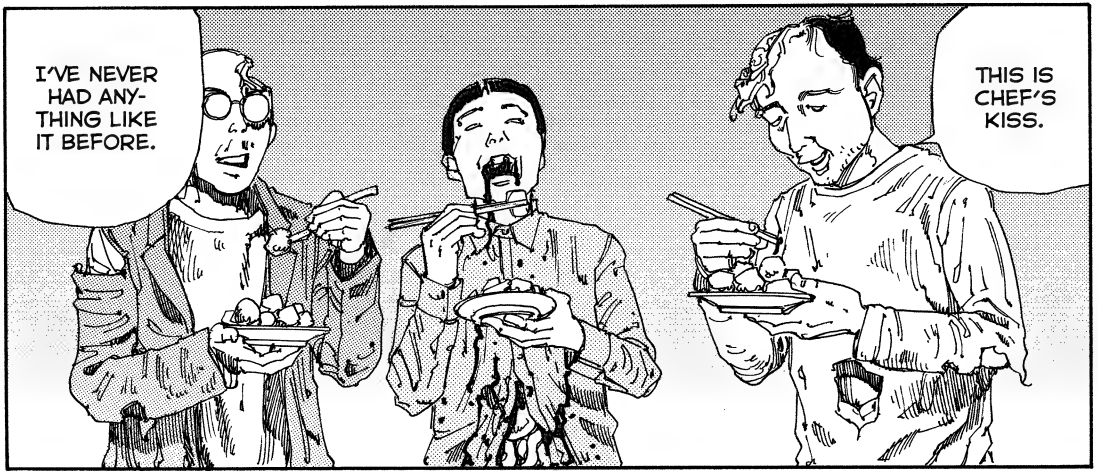


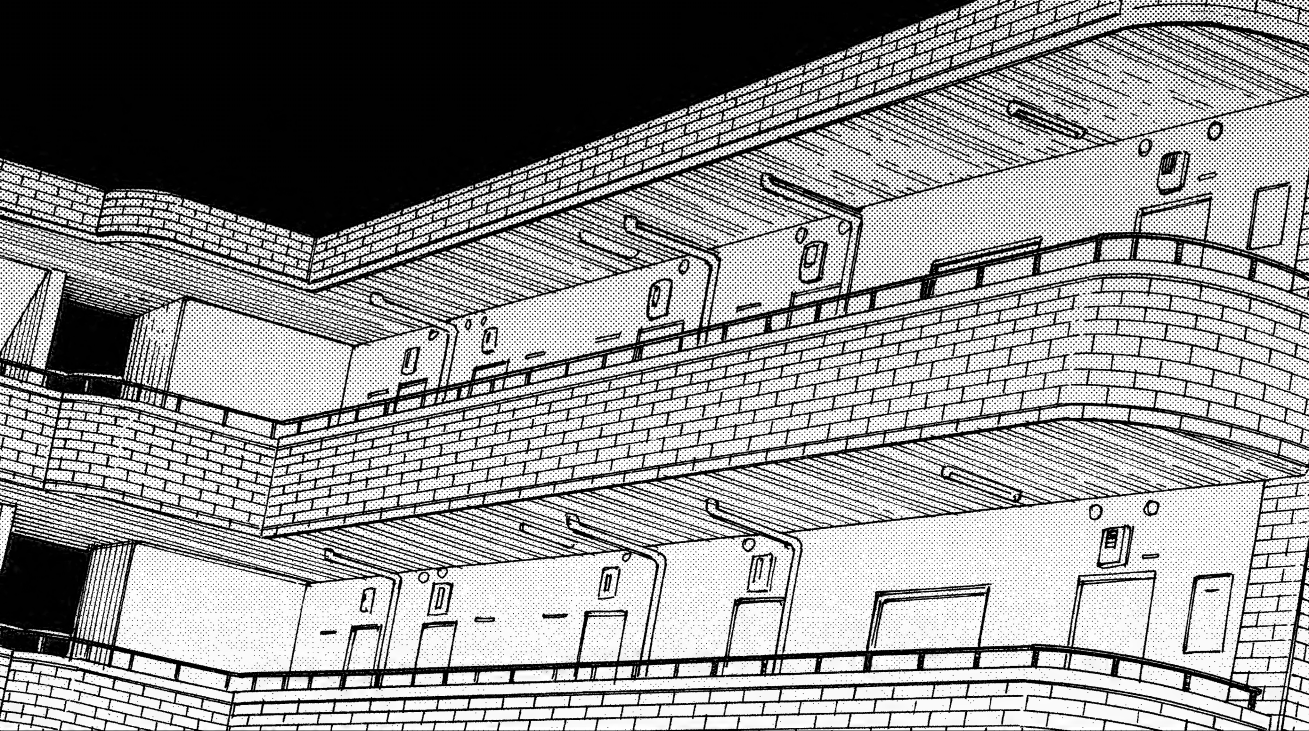






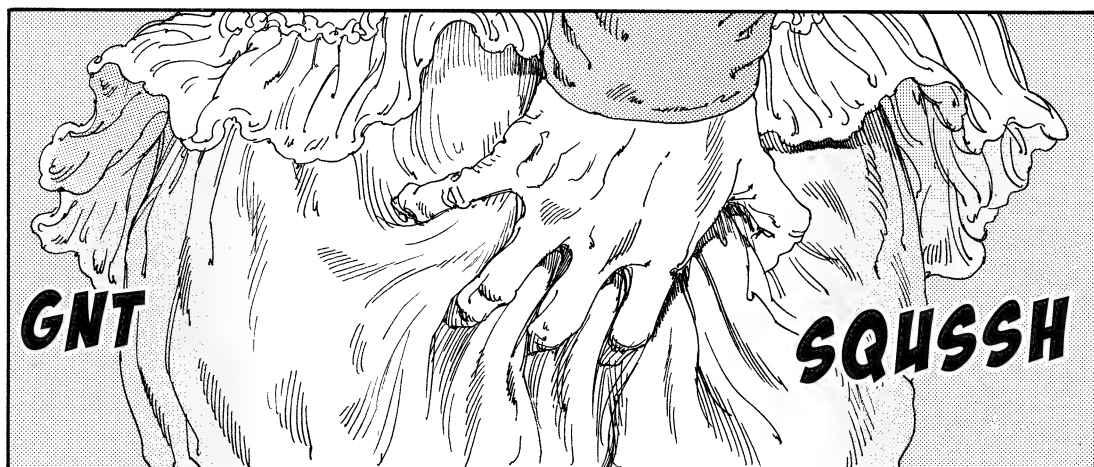
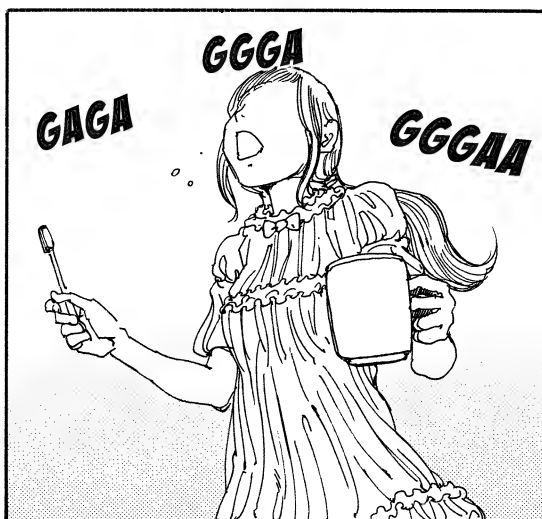


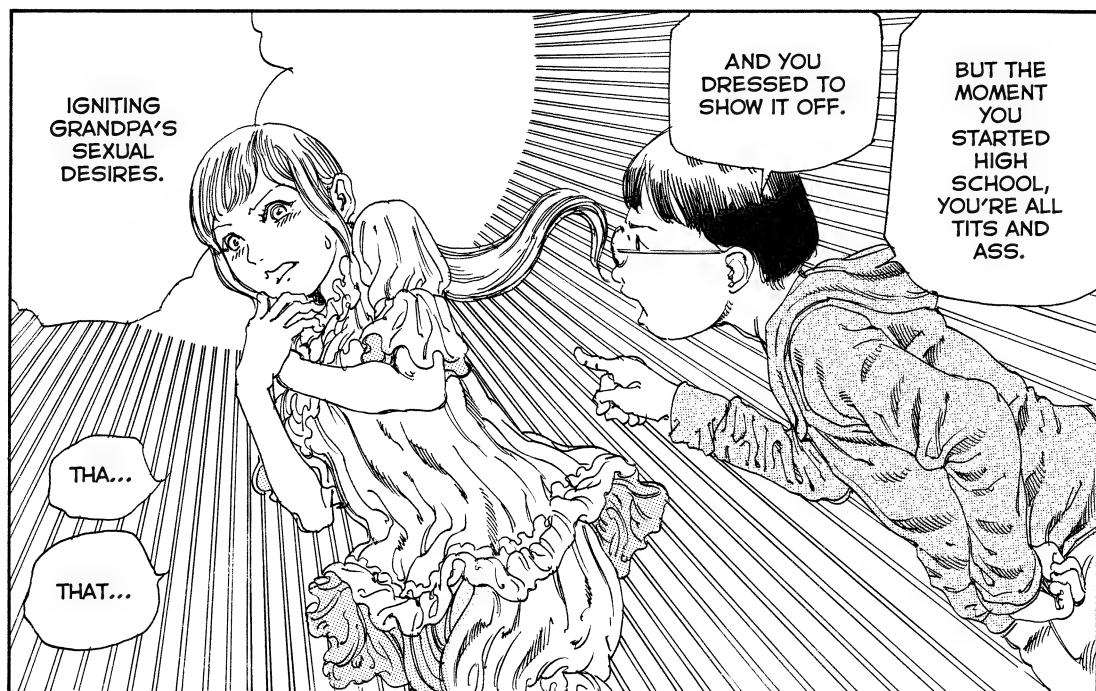
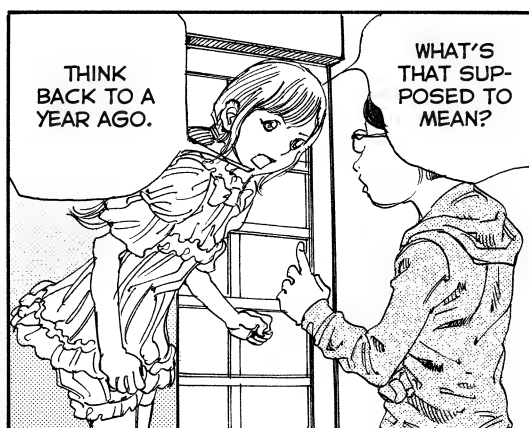


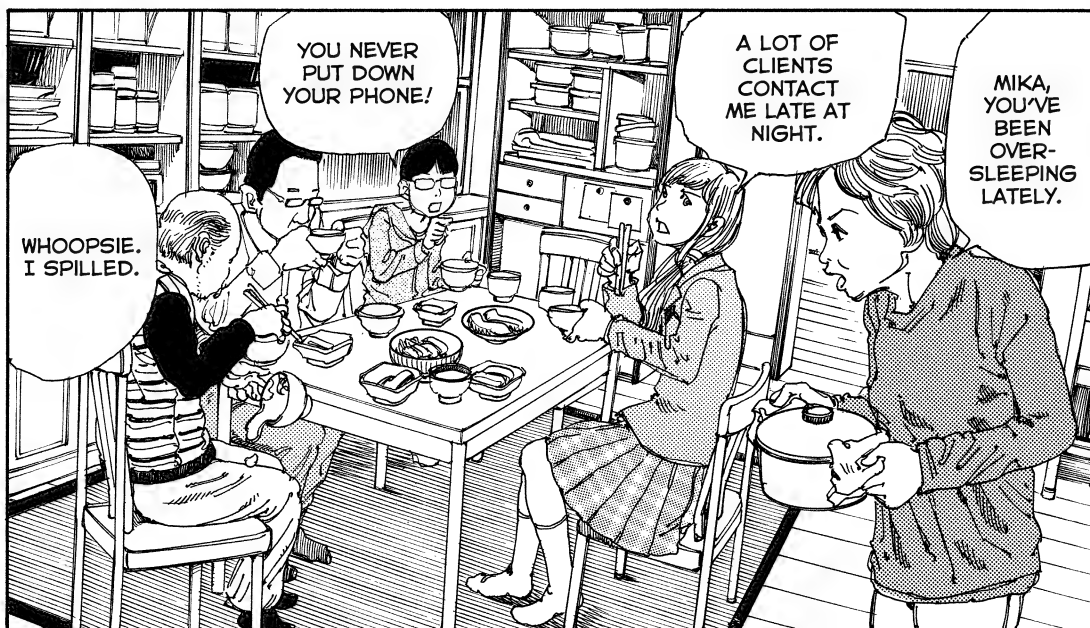
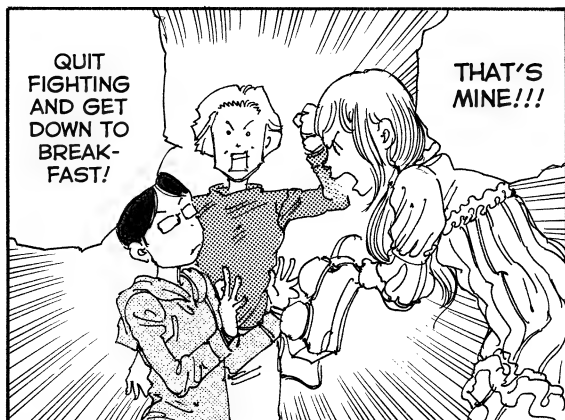


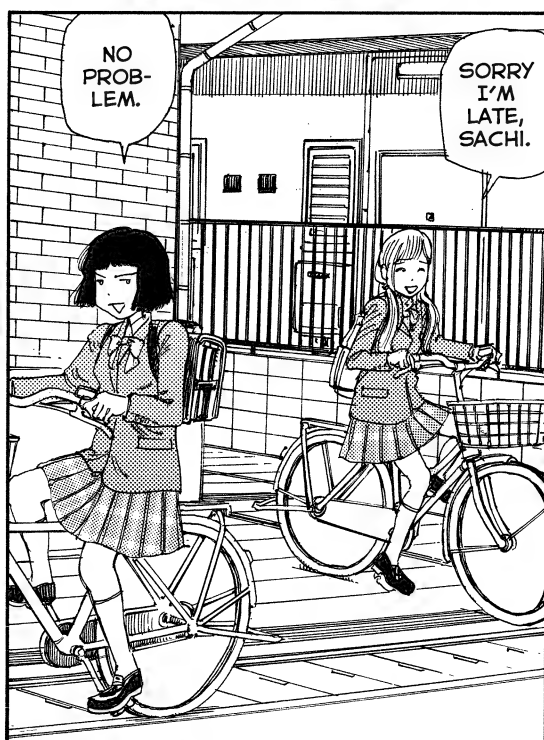
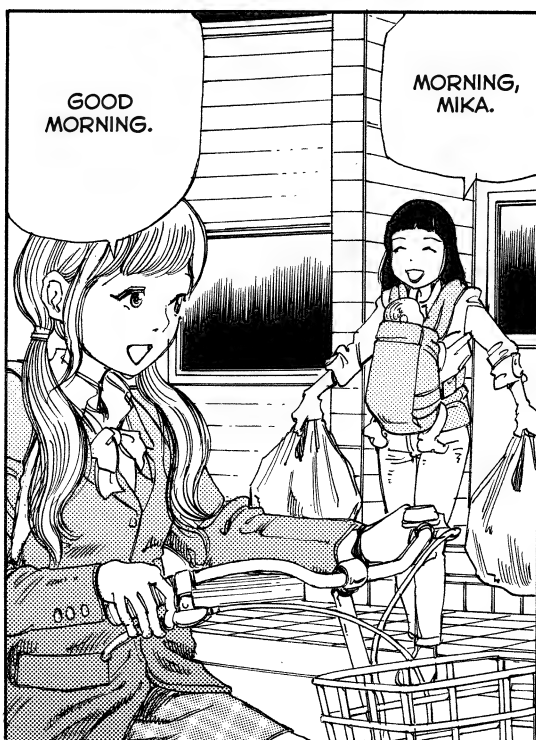
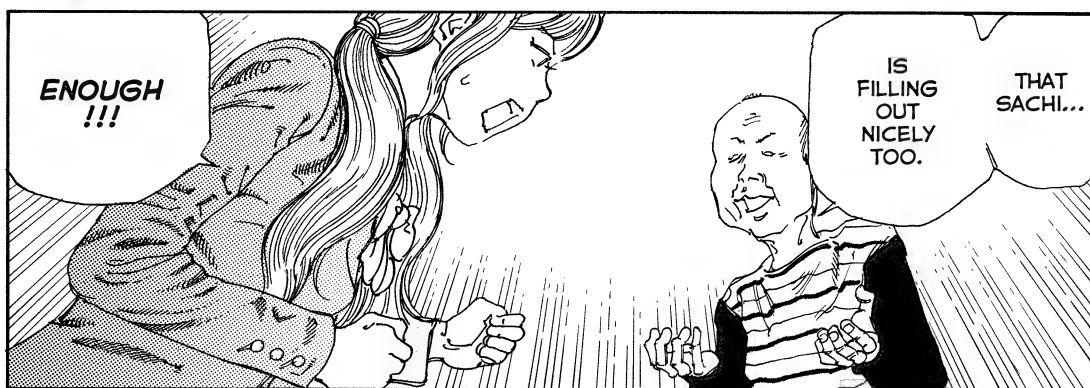
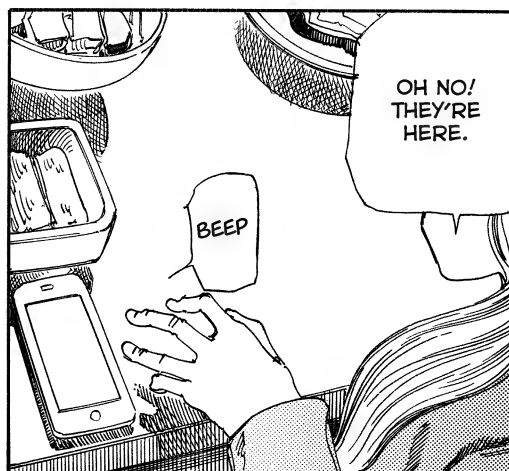
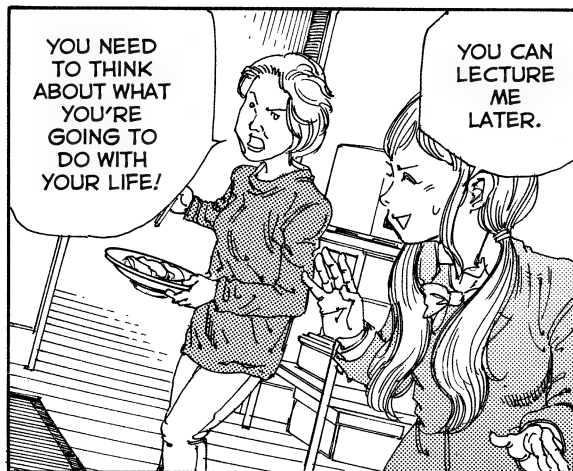
家族の肖像

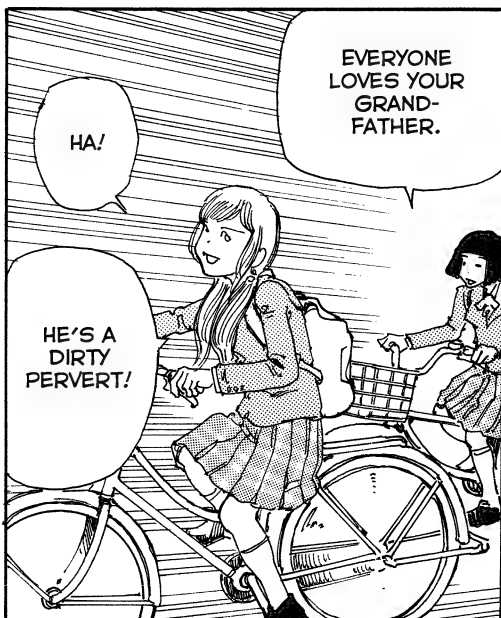
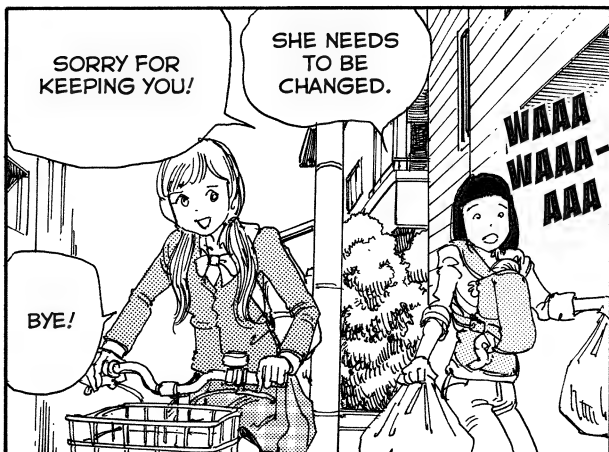
FAMILY PORTRAIT

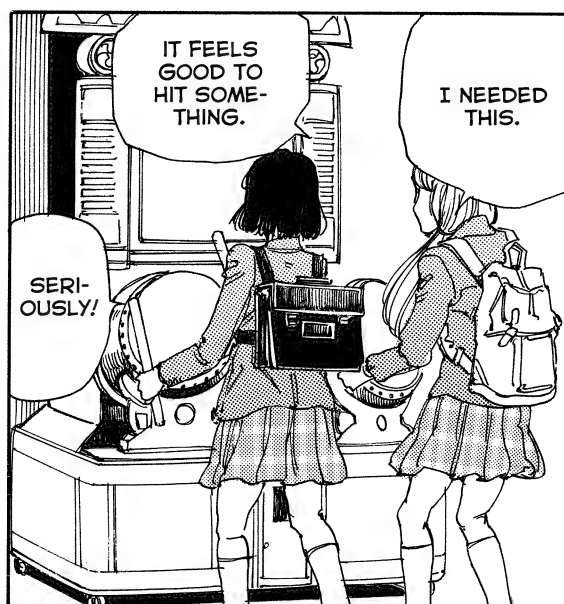
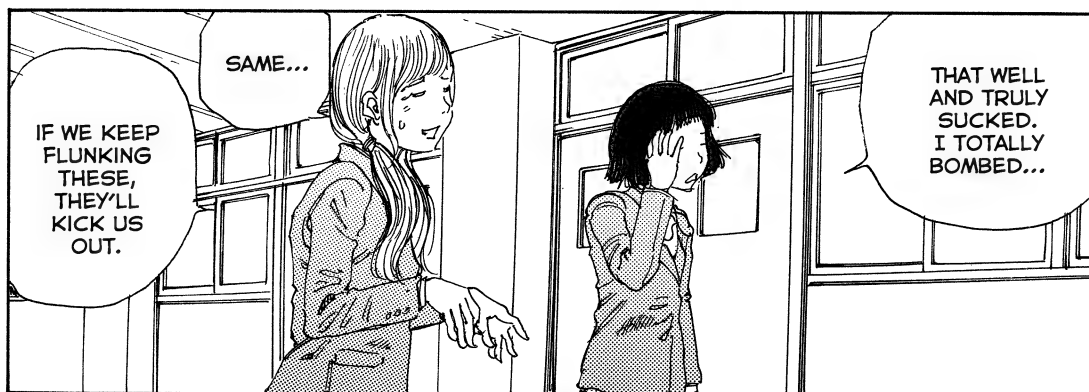
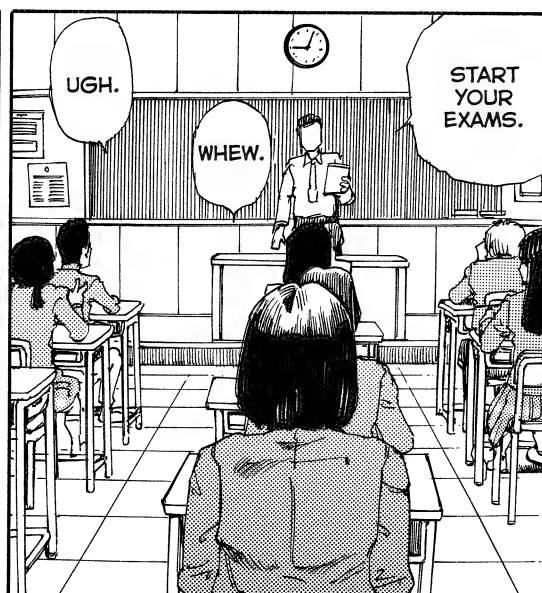


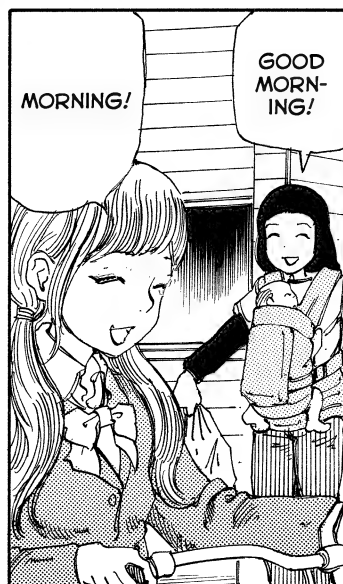
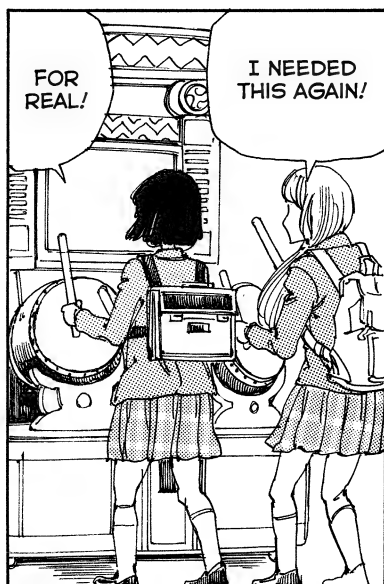
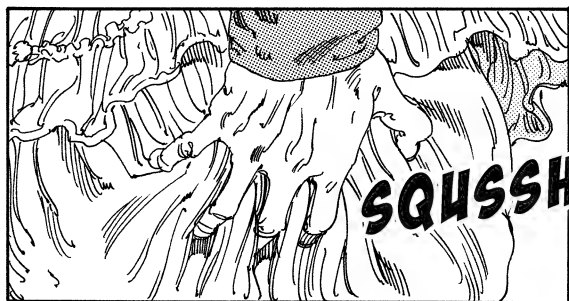
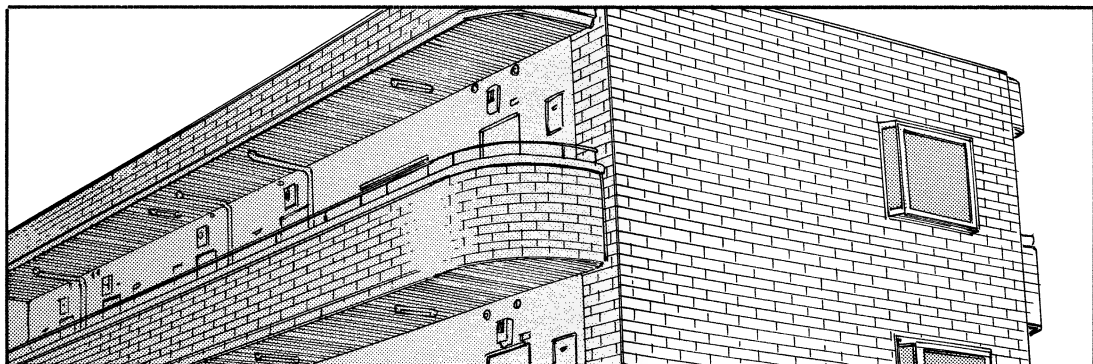


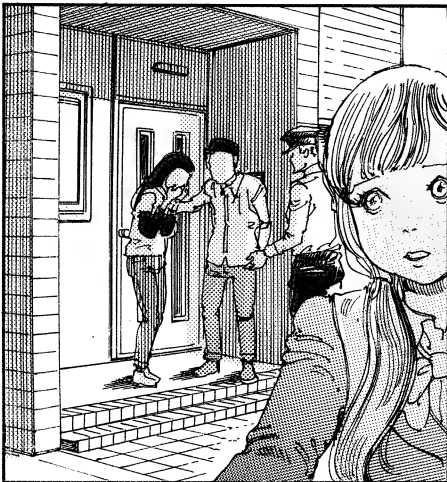
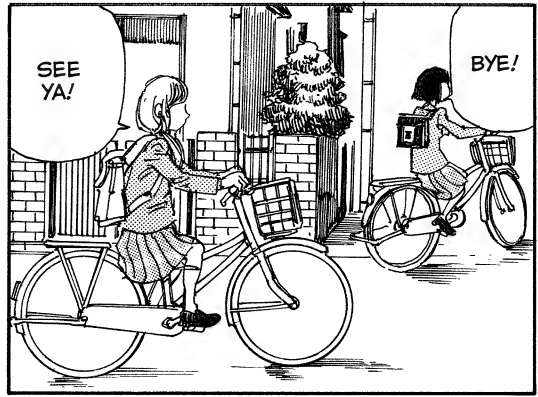
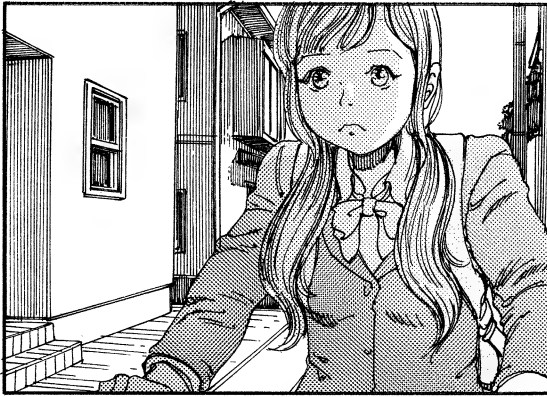


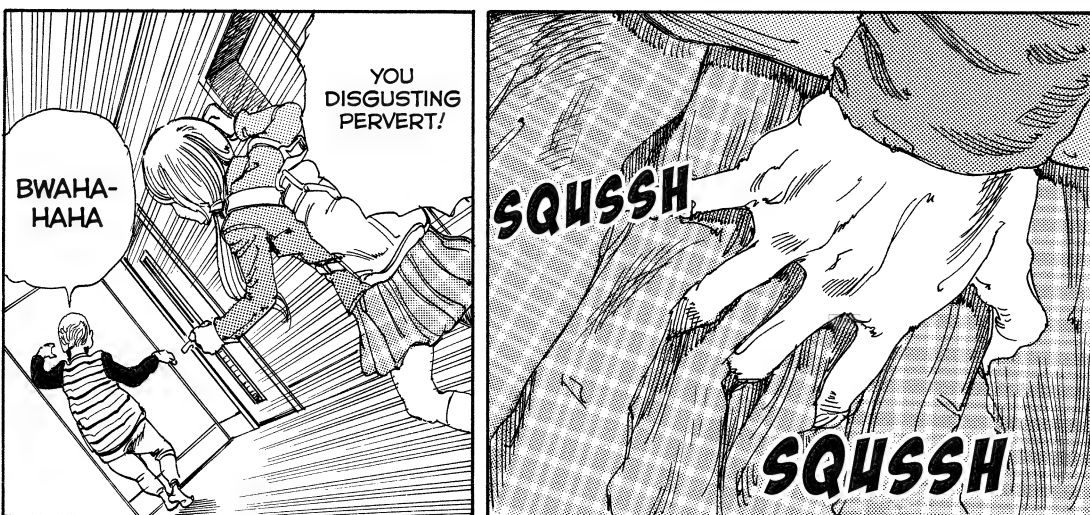
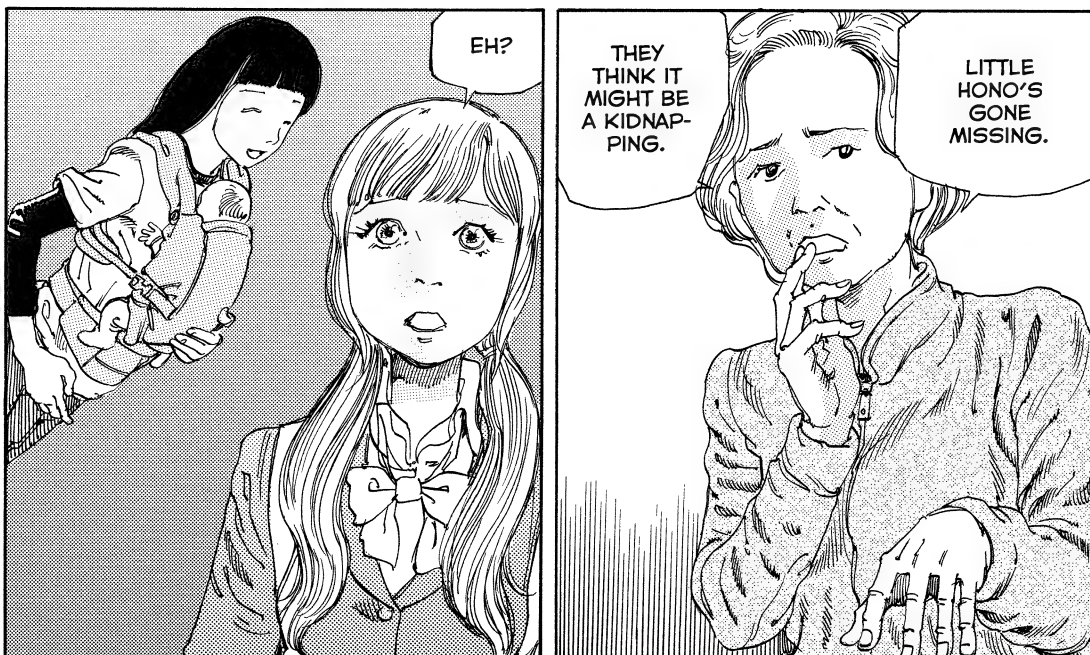
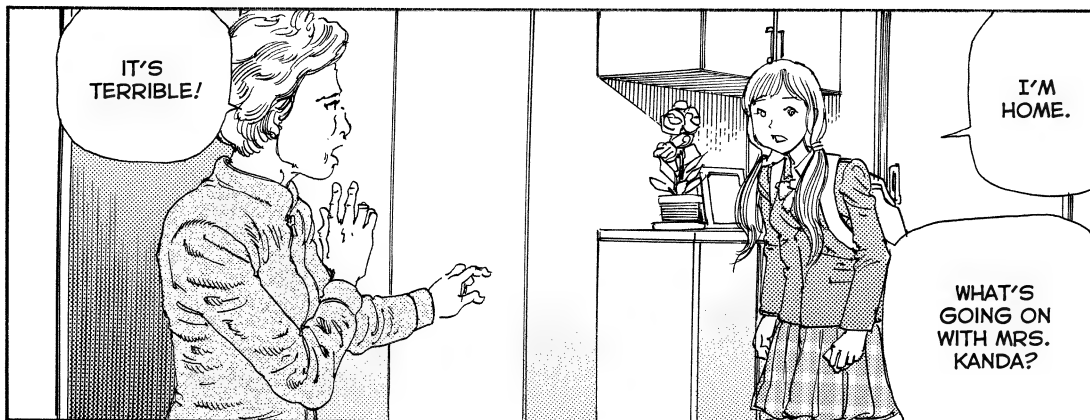


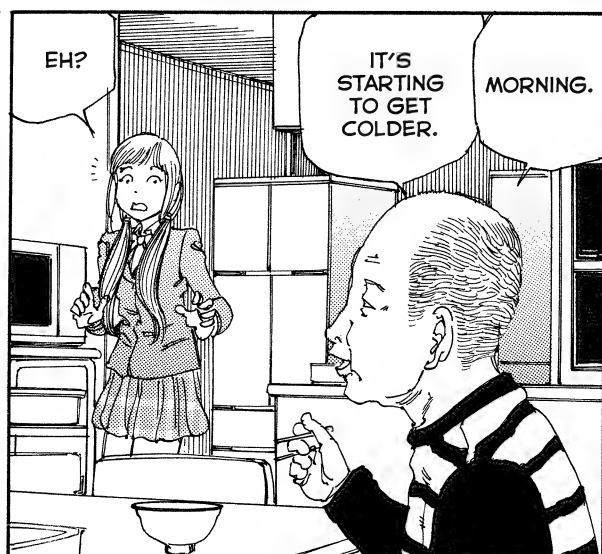
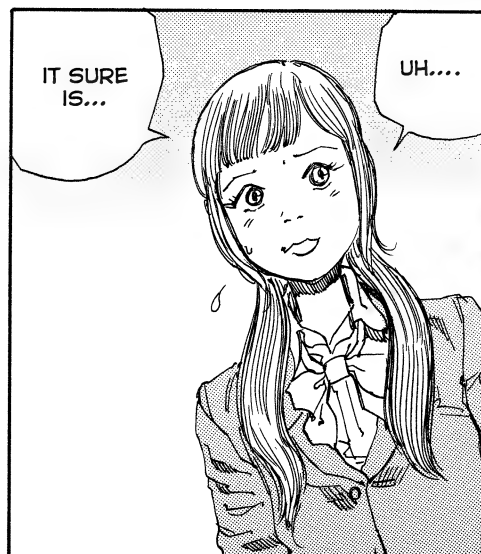
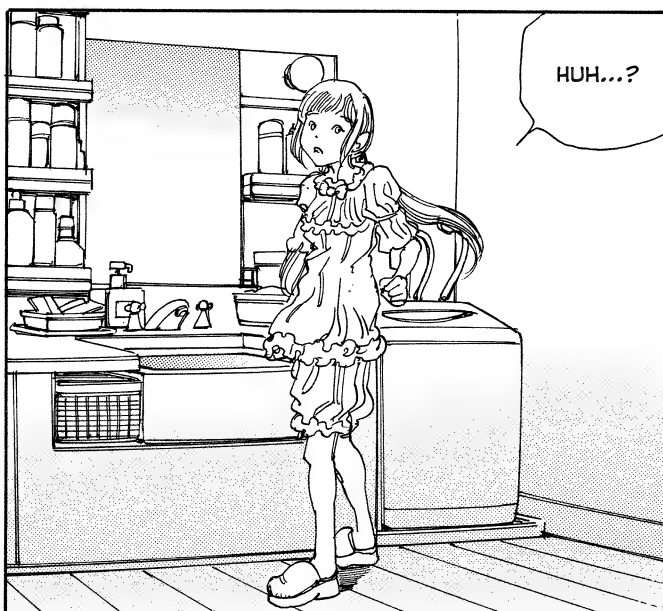
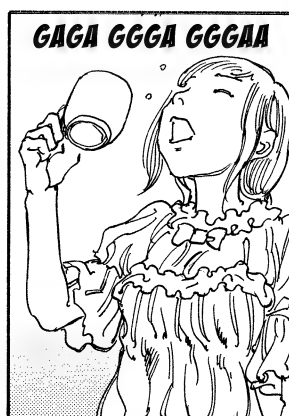
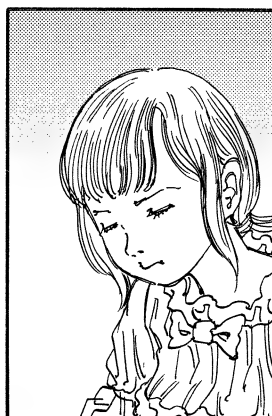
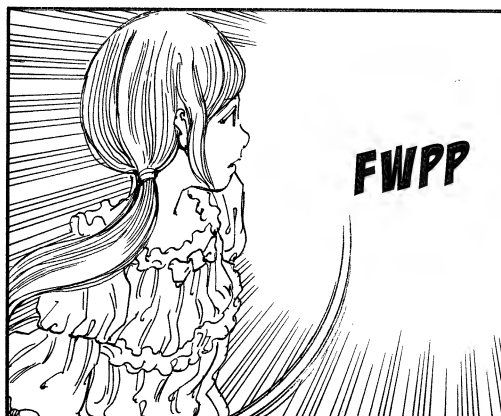




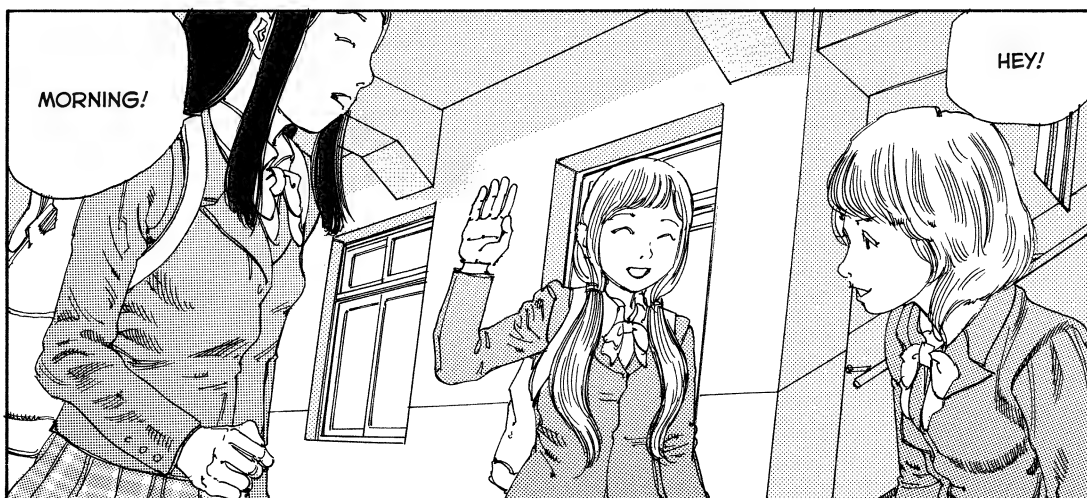
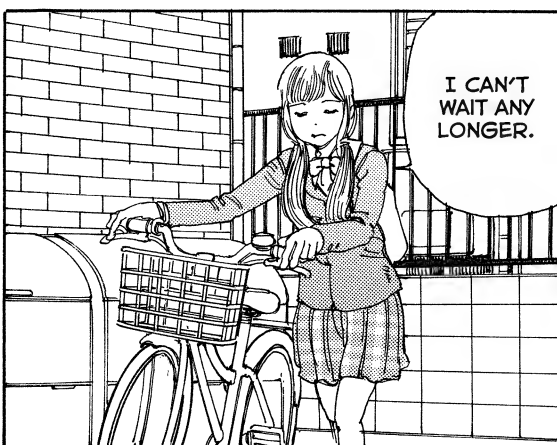
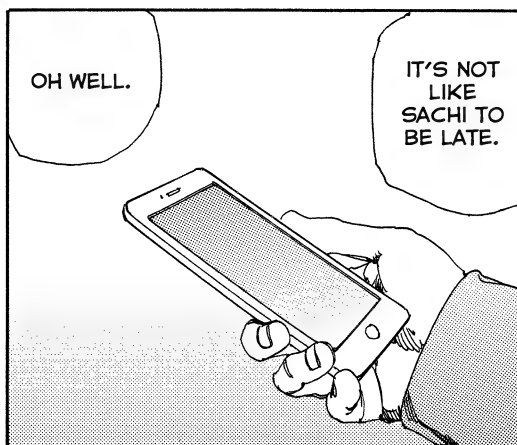
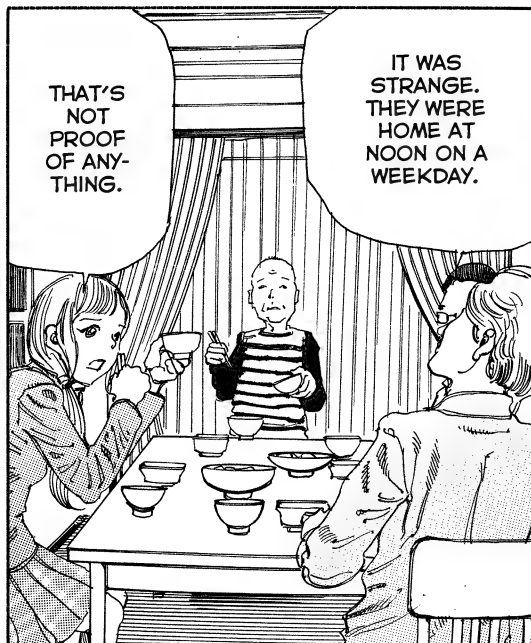


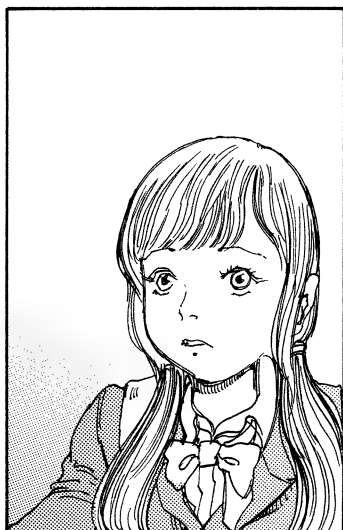
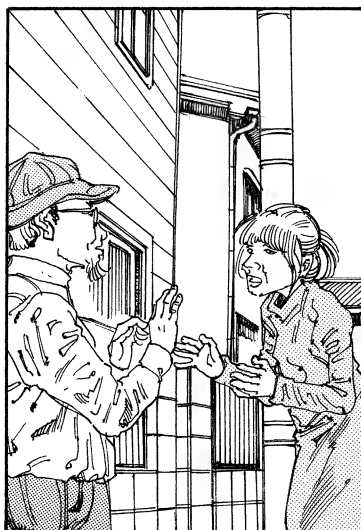
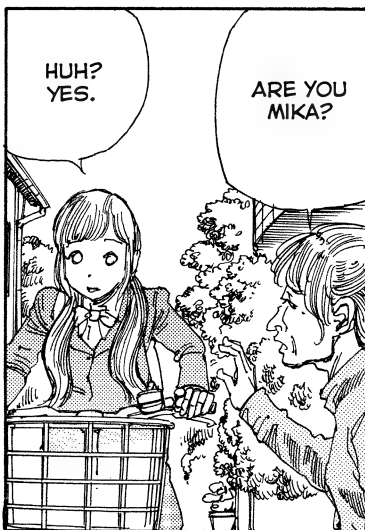
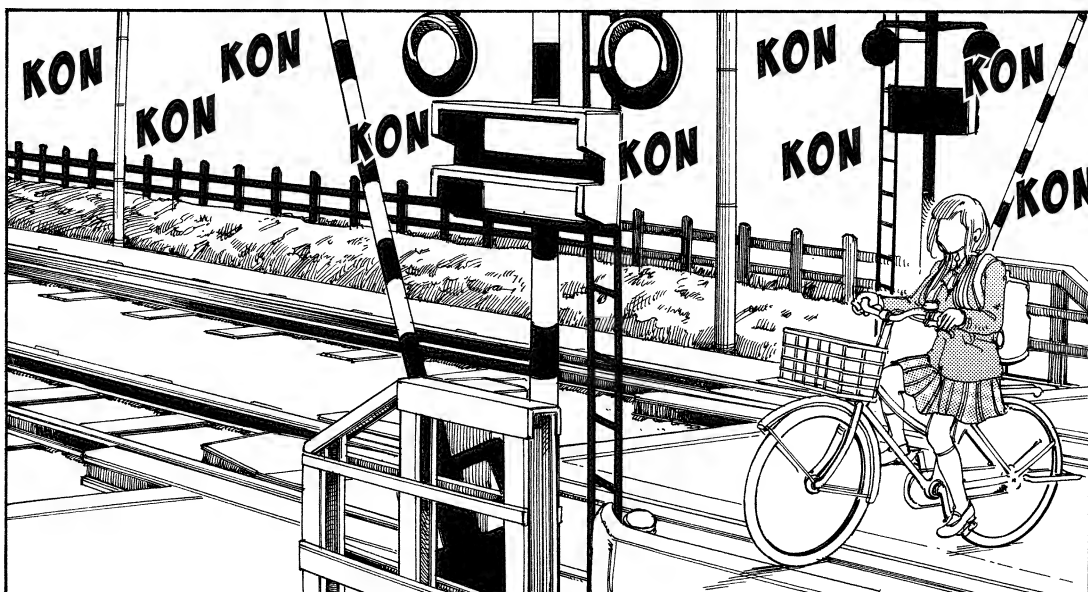
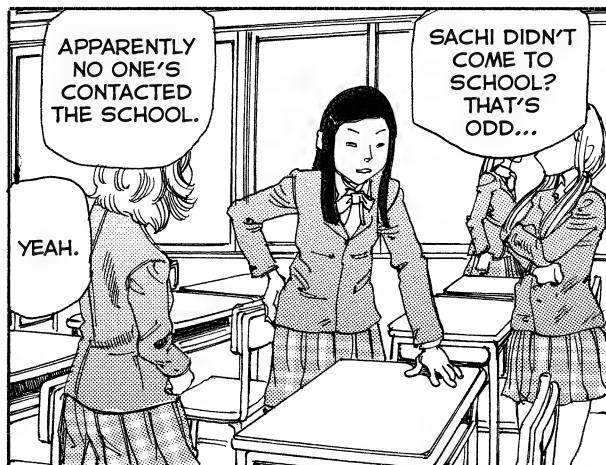
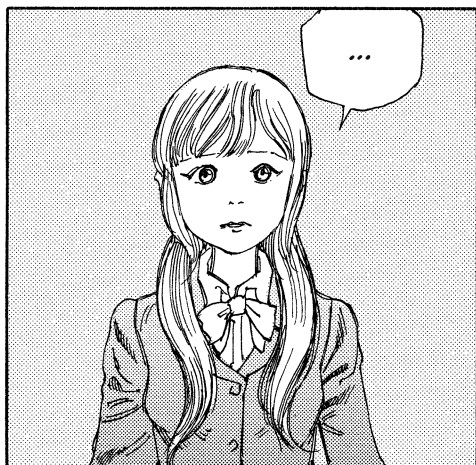


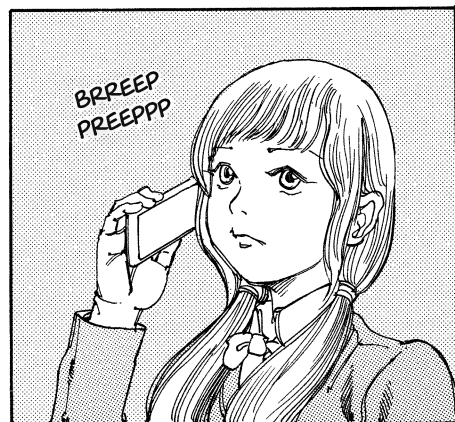
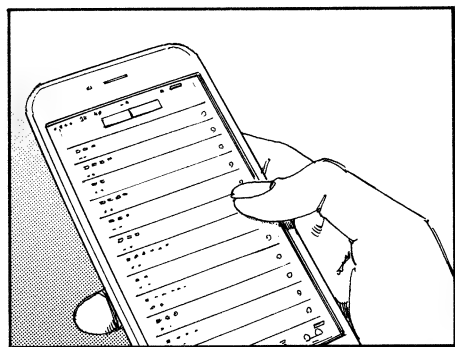
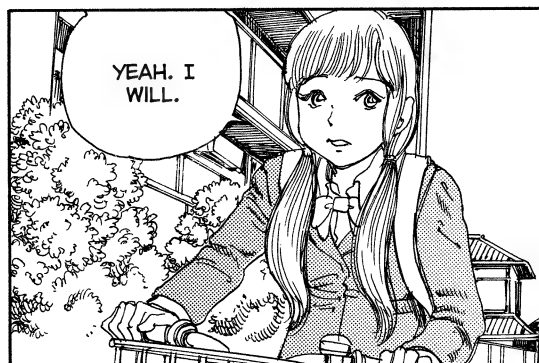
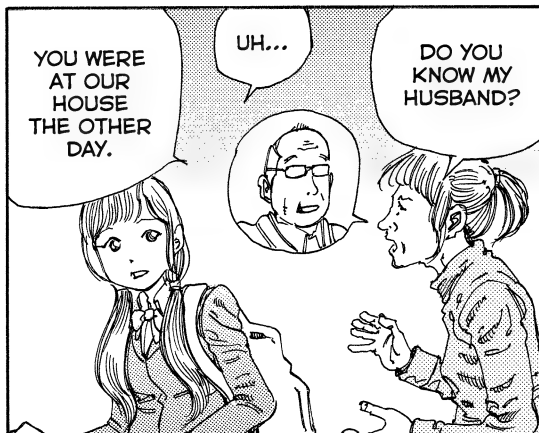
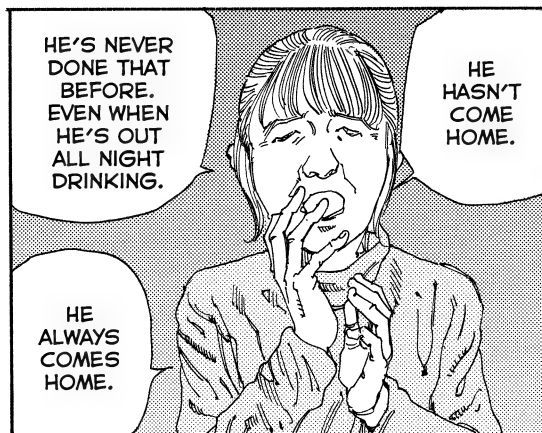


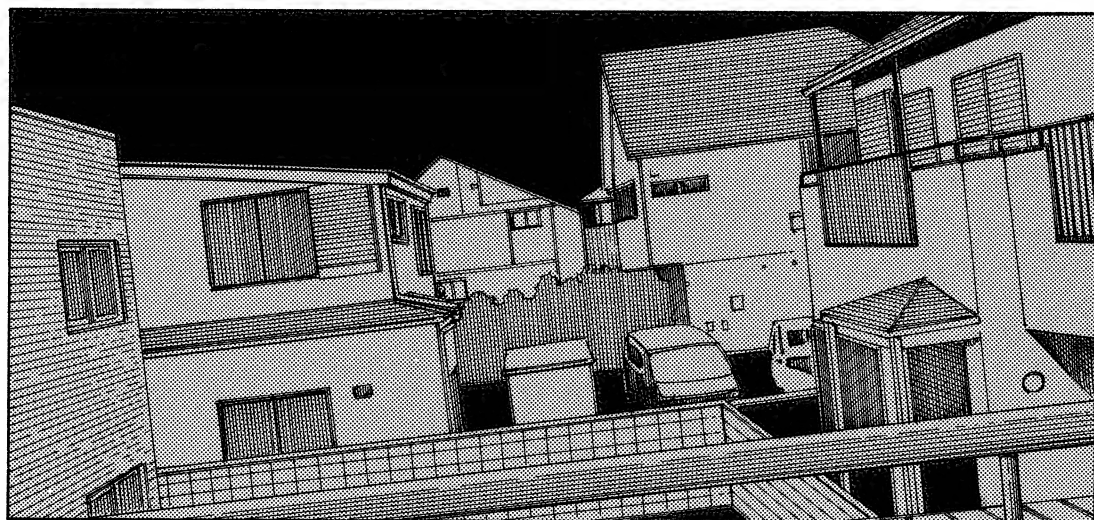
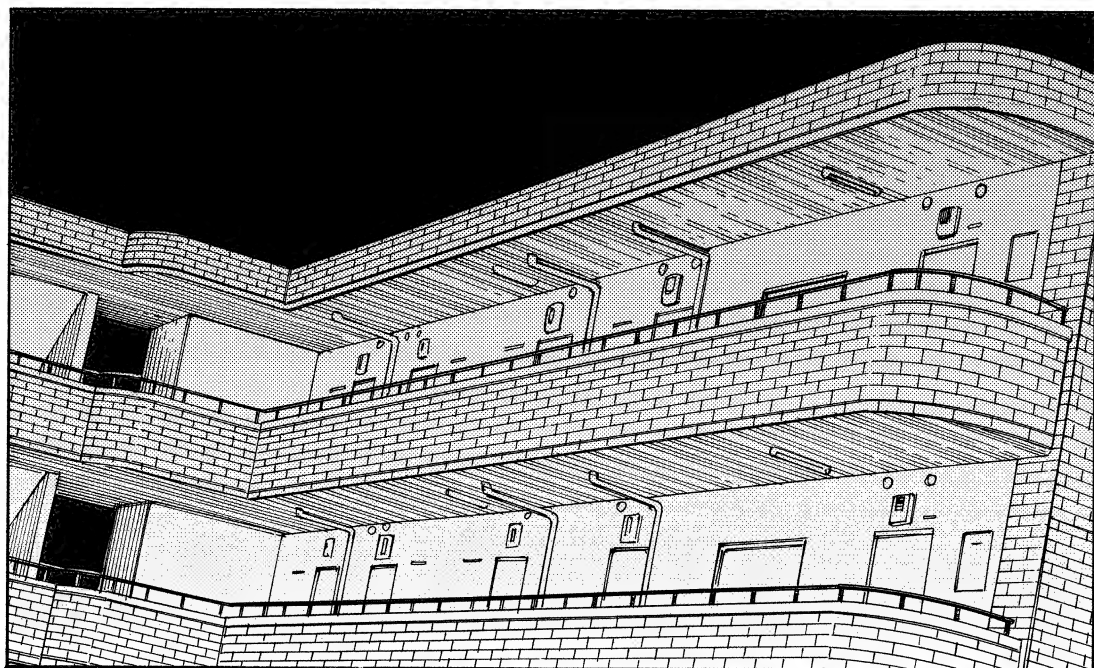
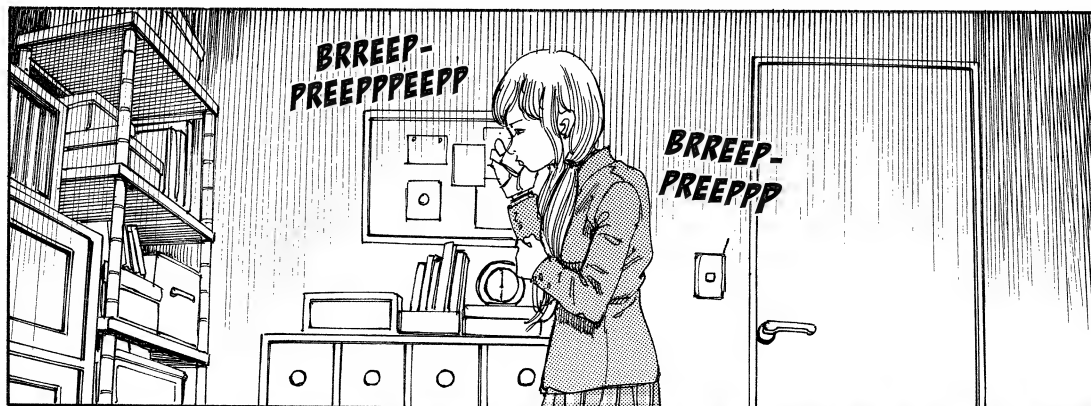


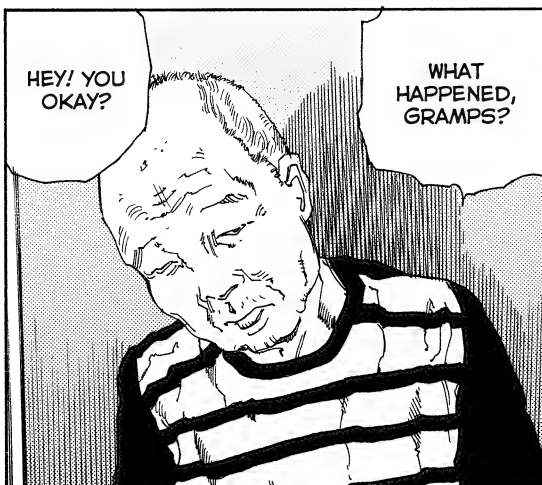
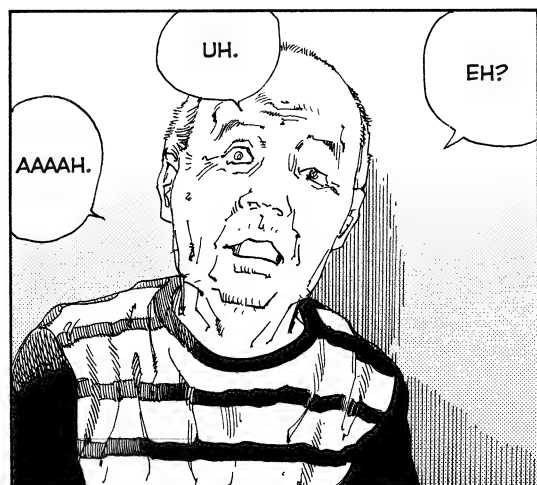
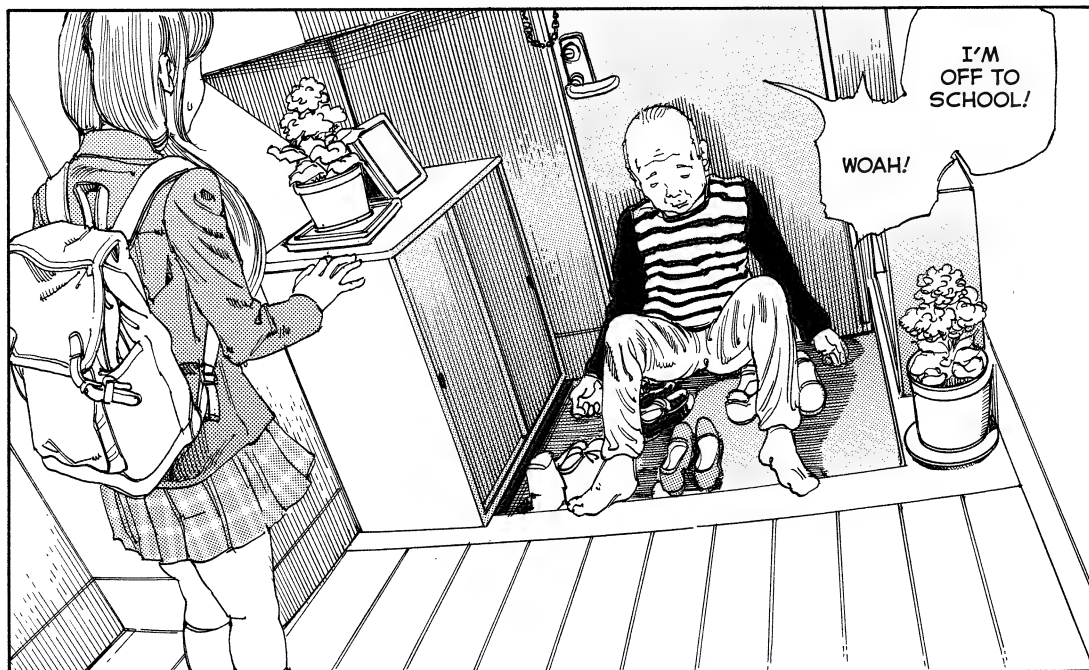
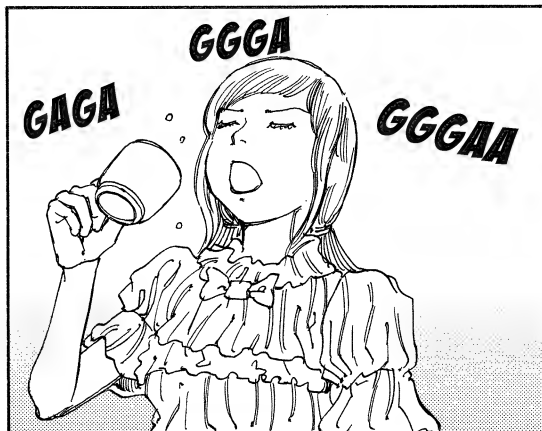
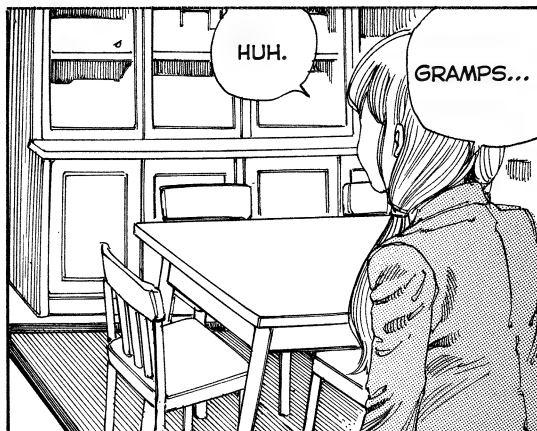


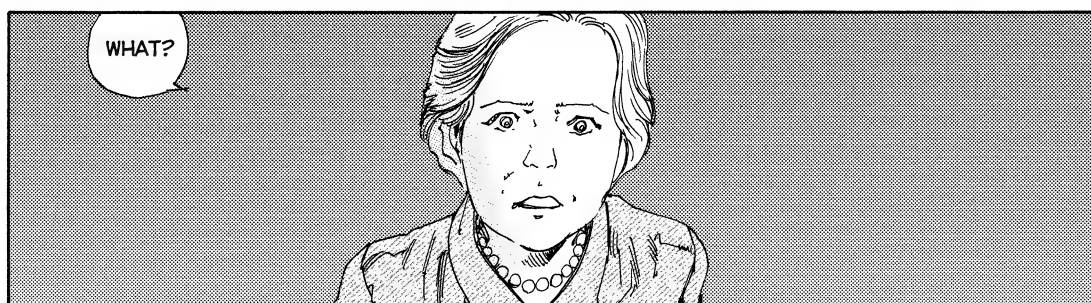


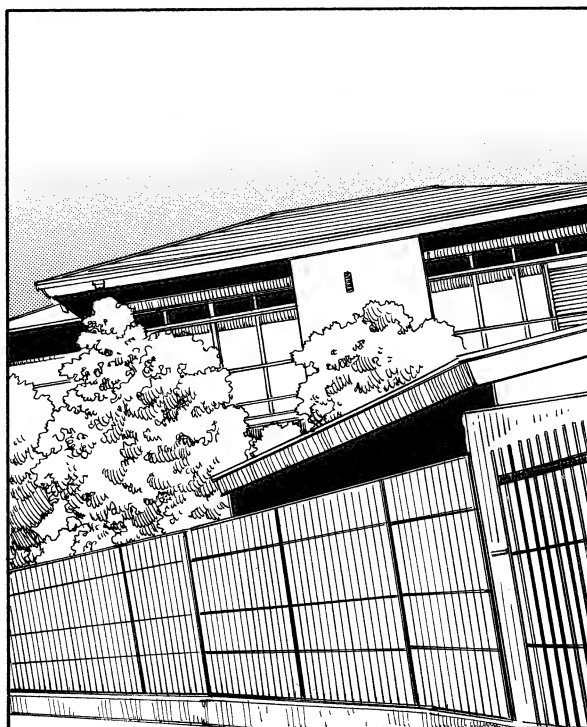
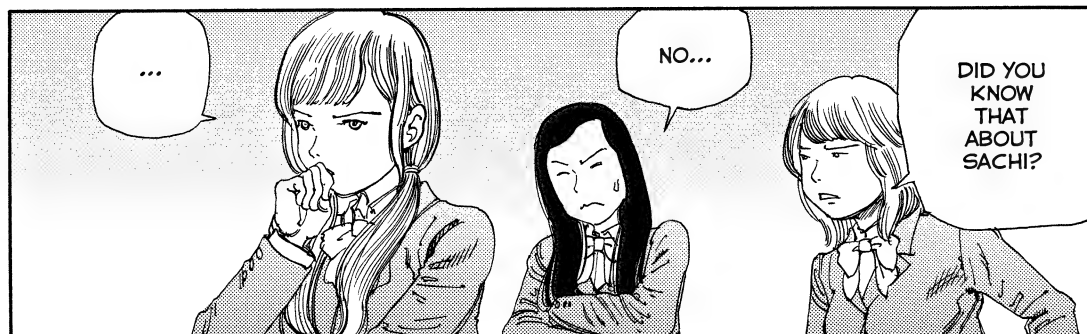
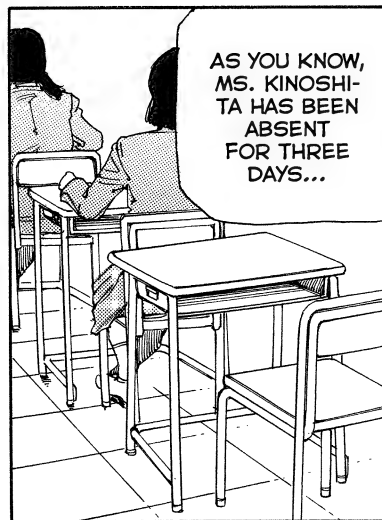
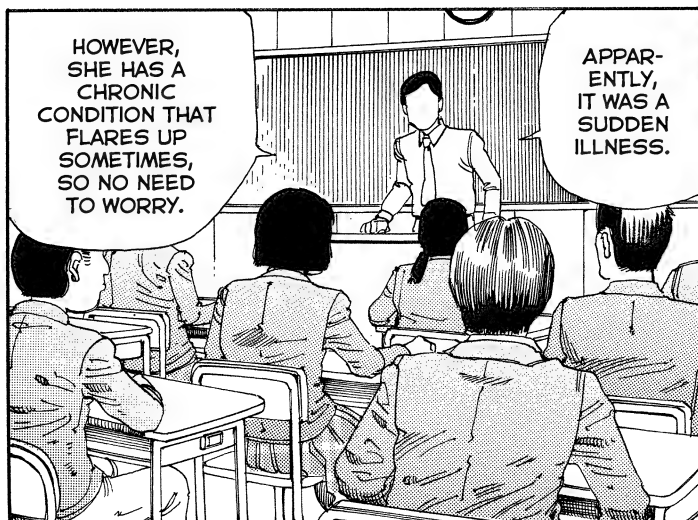


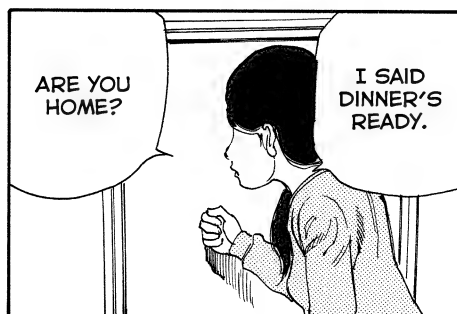
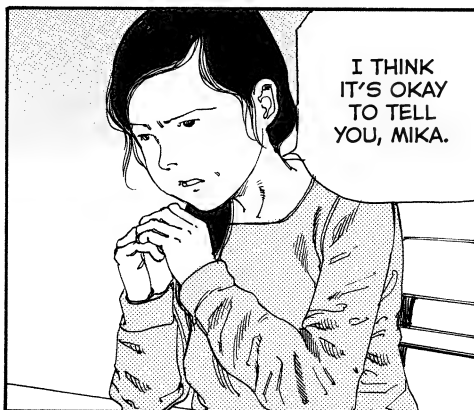
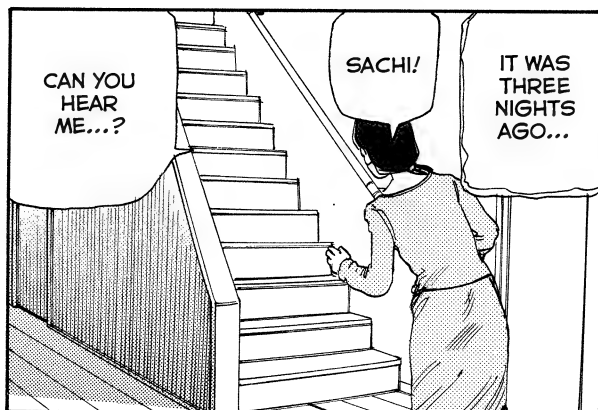
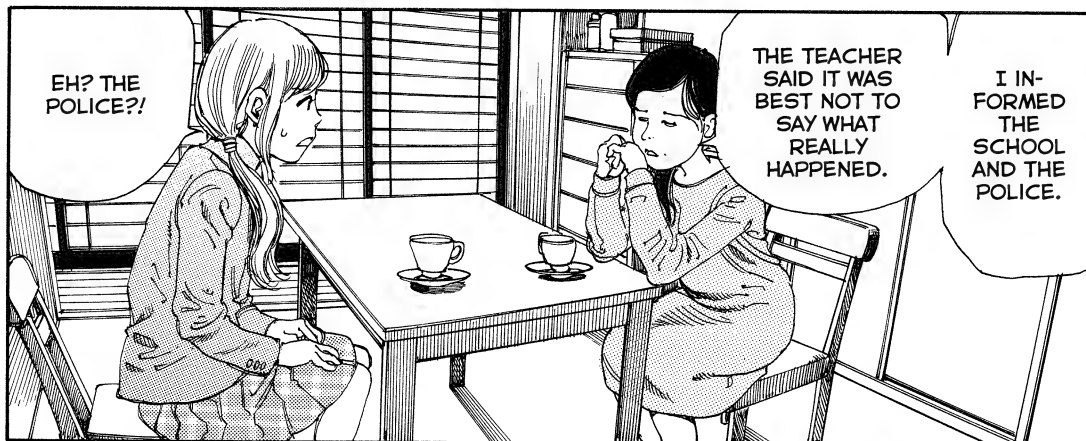










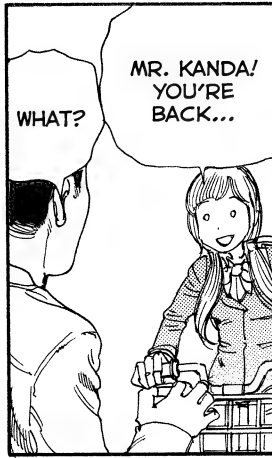






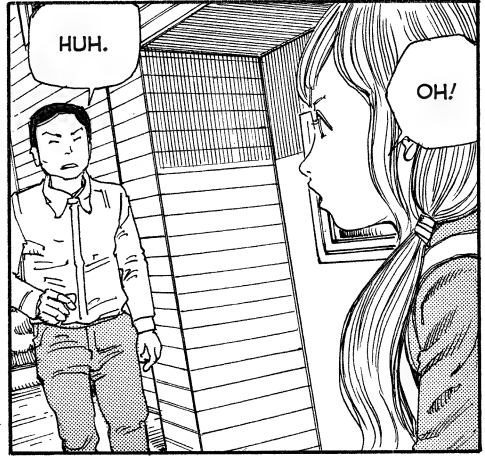
N-NO!
THAT'S
NOT
WHAT
I...

YOU
THINK I
DID IT
TOO?!



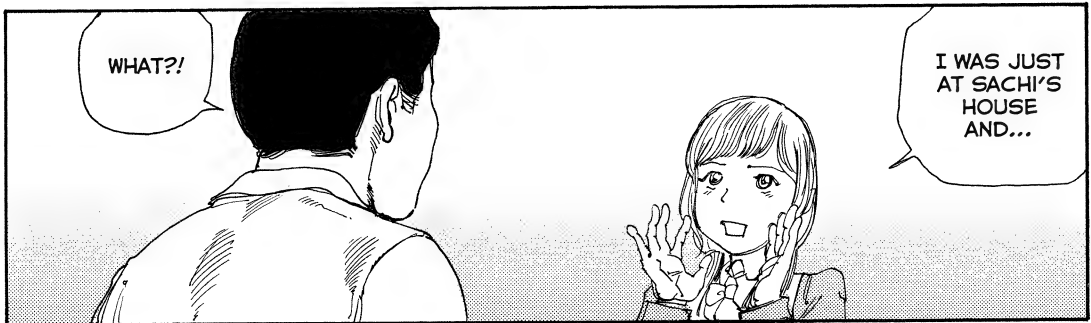
WHAT?

MR. KANDA!
YOU'RE
BACK...



HUH.

OH!



WHAT?!

I WAS JUST
AT SACHI'S
HOUSE
AND...



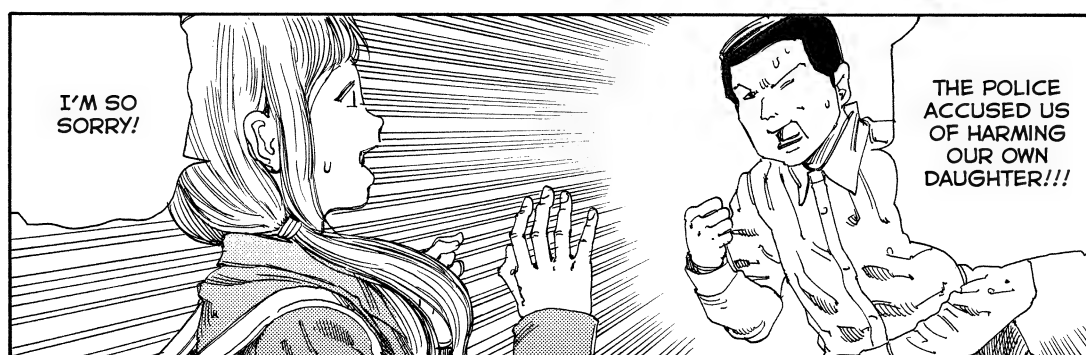
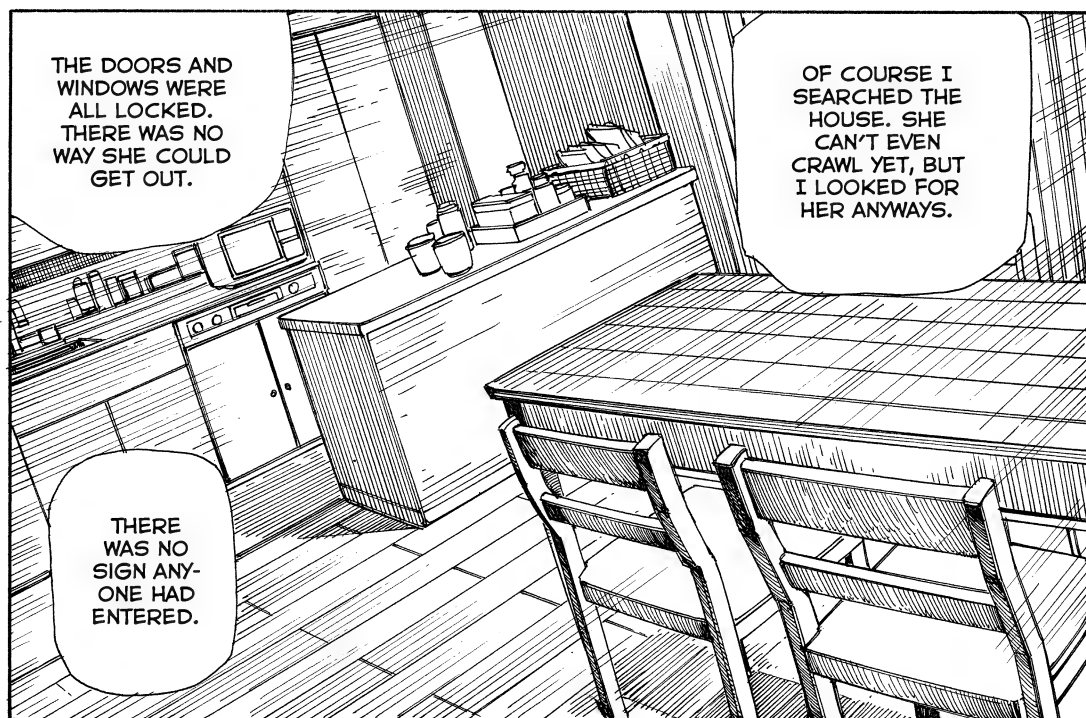
THAT NIGHT...
WE PUT
HONOKA TO
BED WITH US
AS ALWAYS.

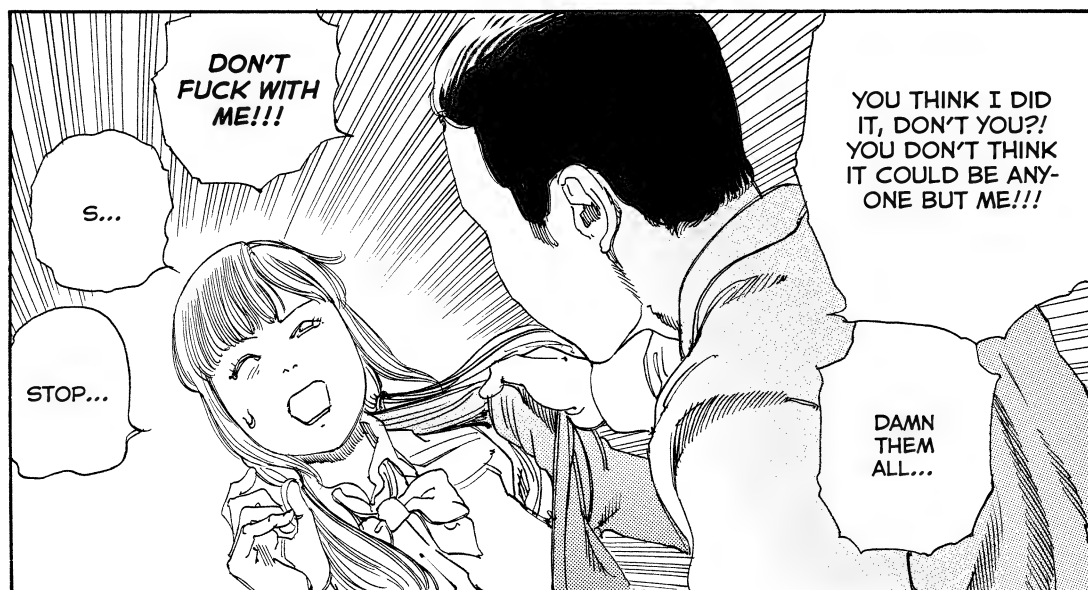
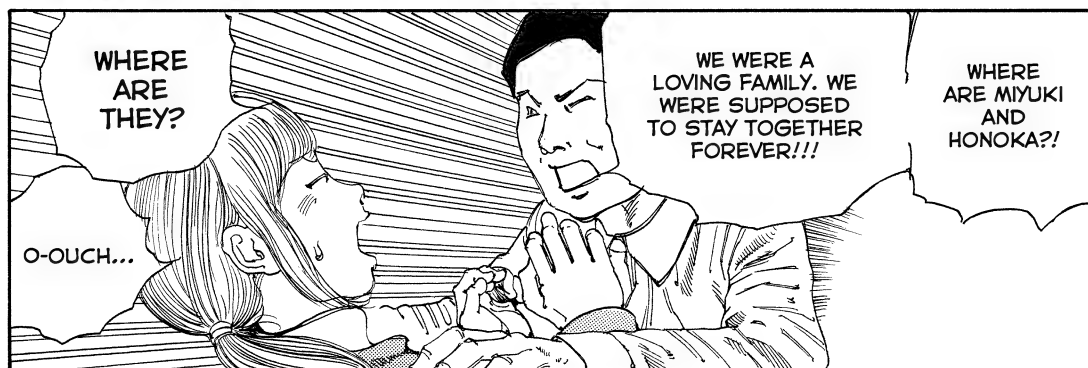
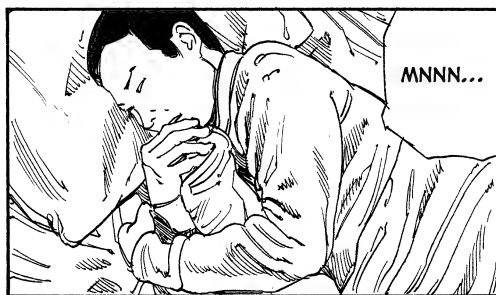


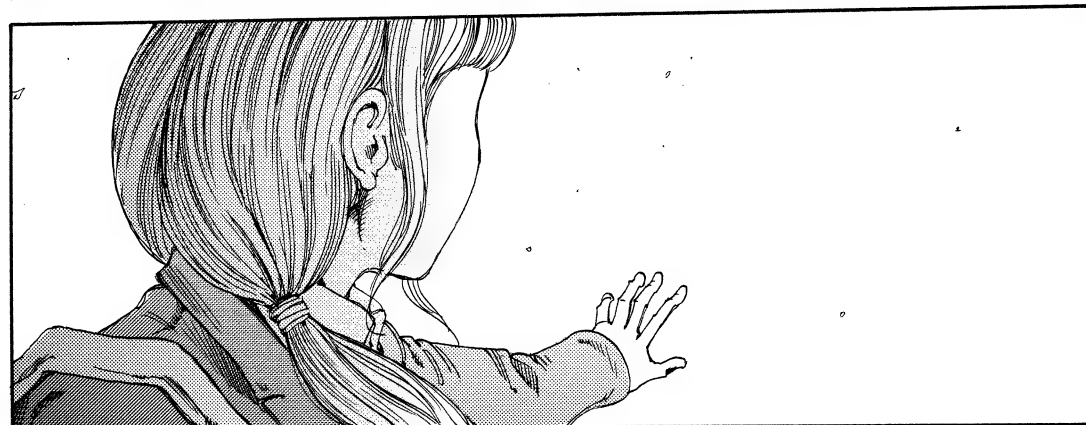
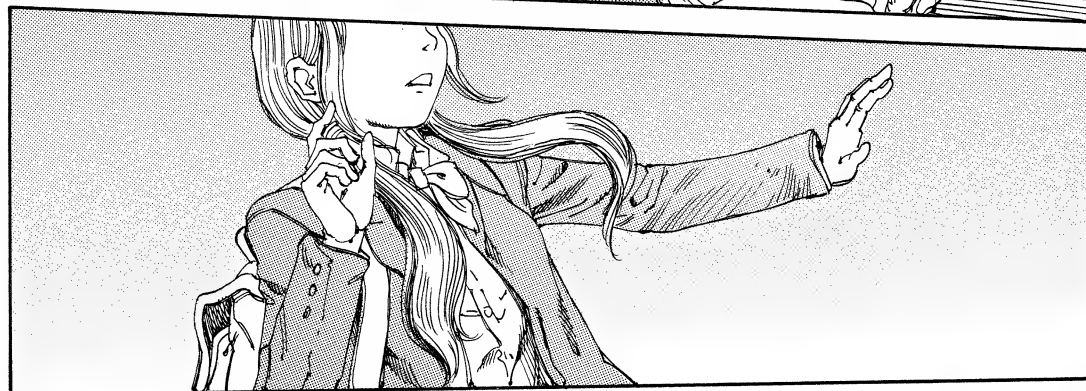
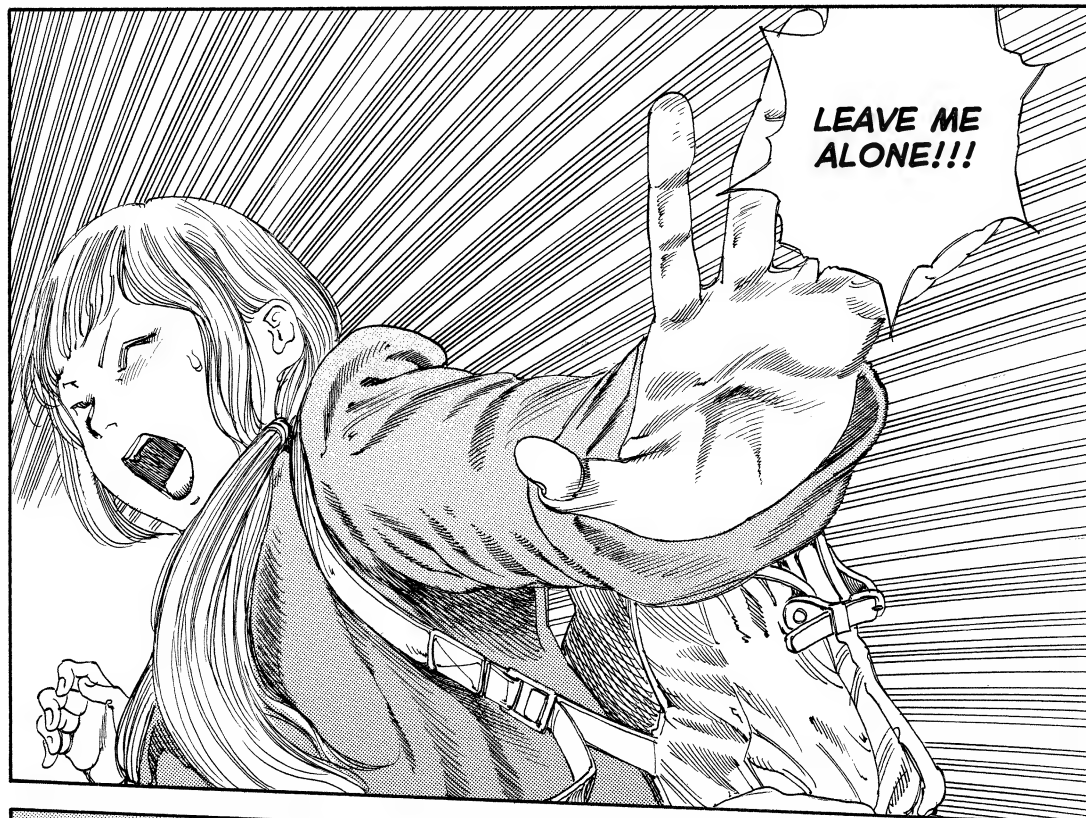
BUT
IN THE
MORN-
ING...

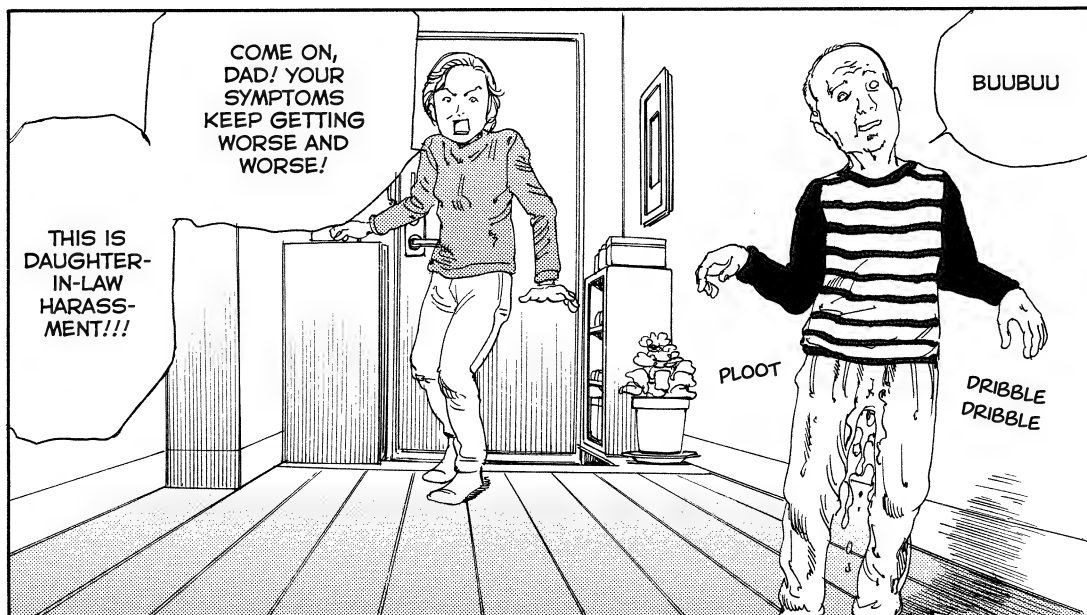
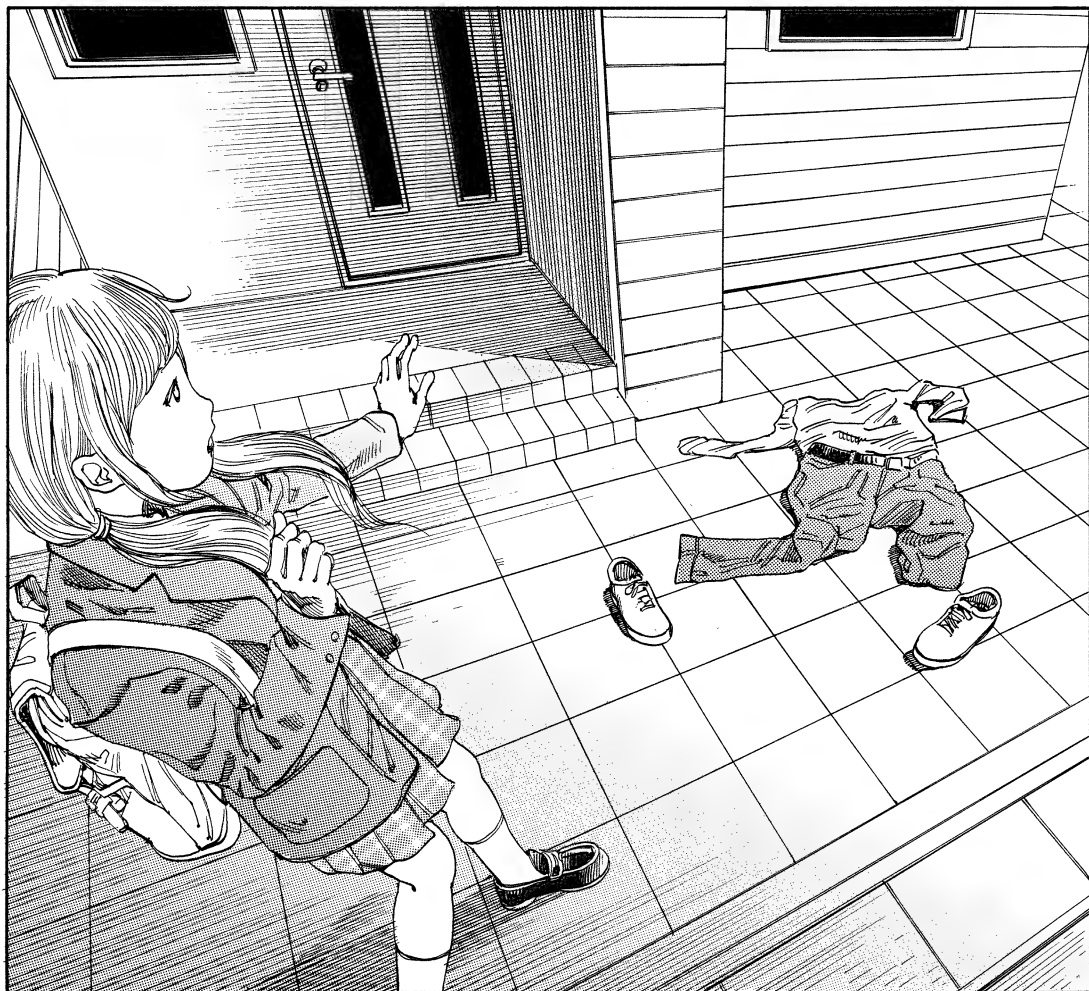


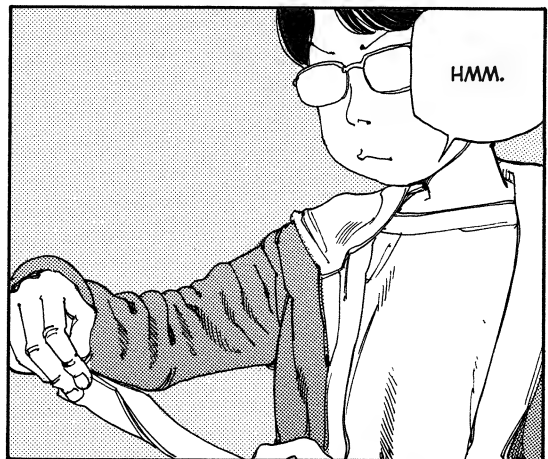
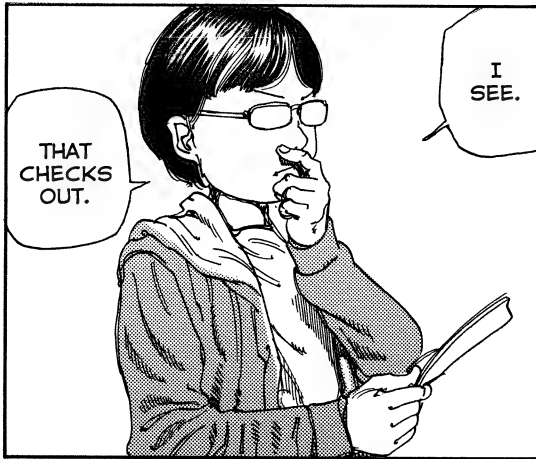
YES! THAT'S
EXACTLY WHAT
HAPPENED AT
OUR HOUSE!

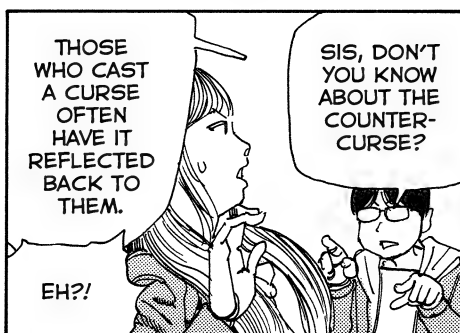
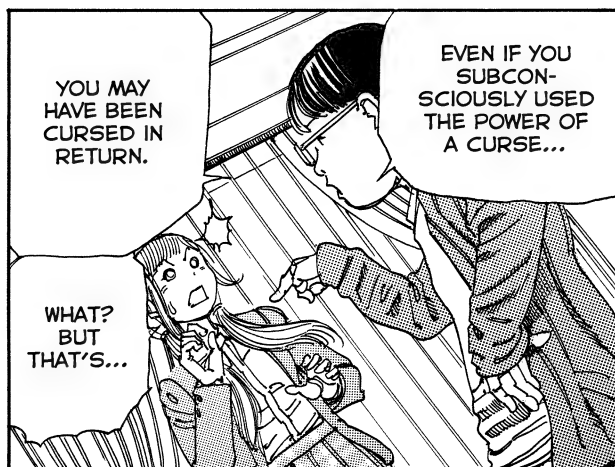
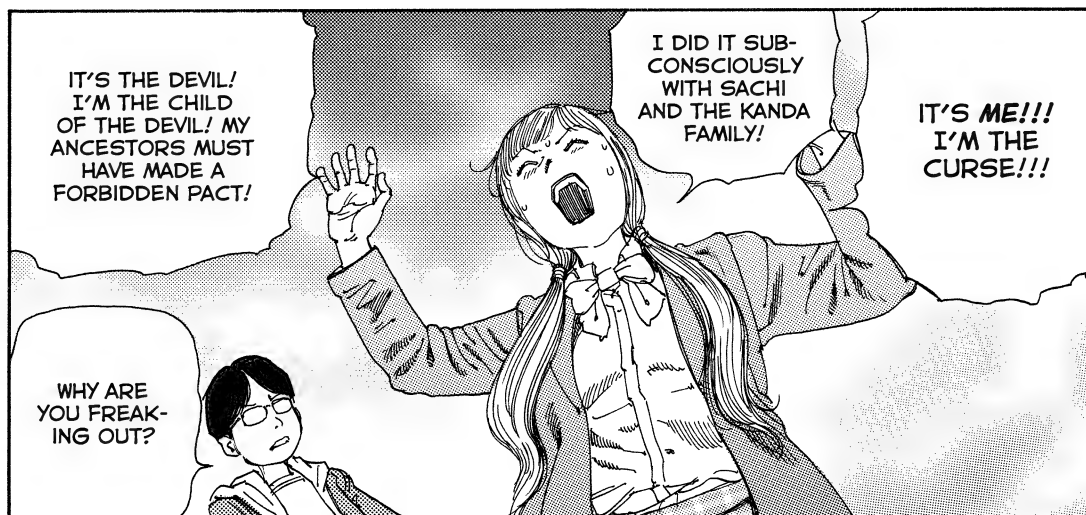


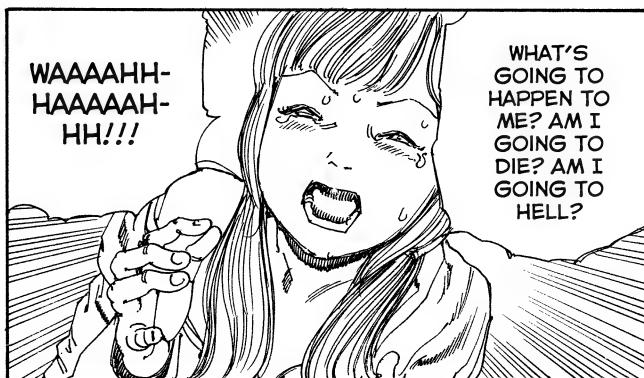
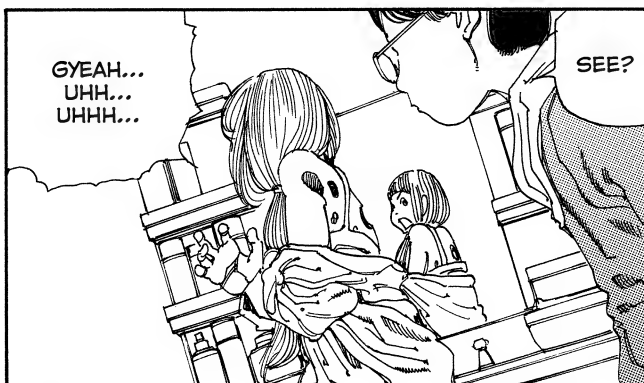
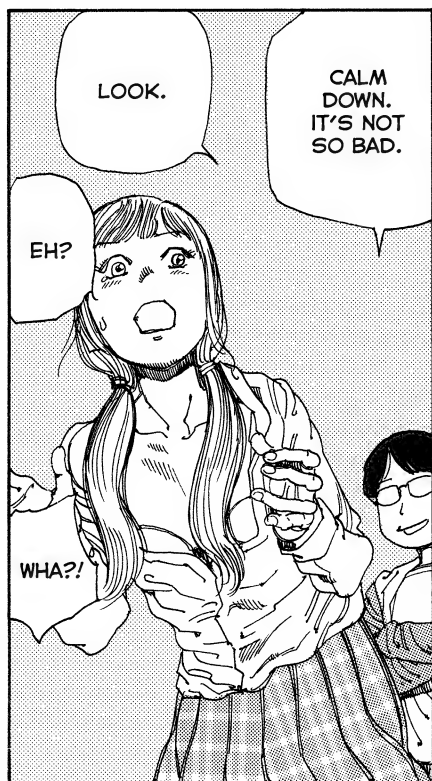
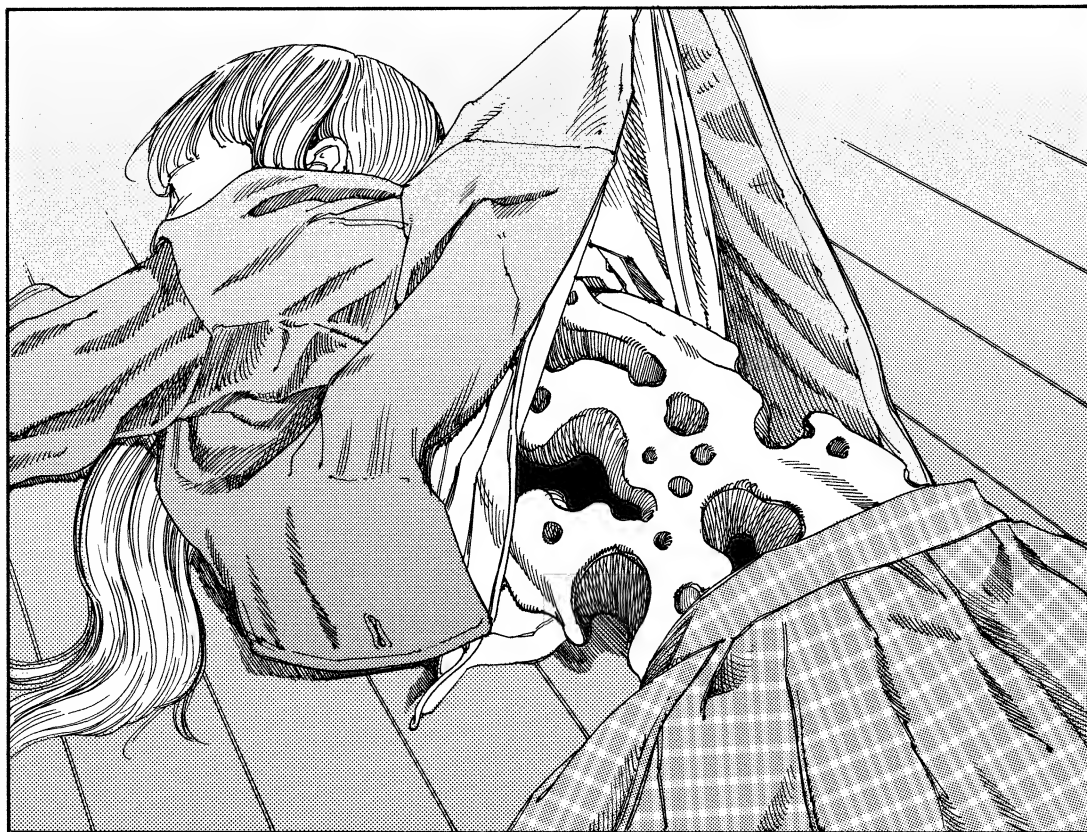








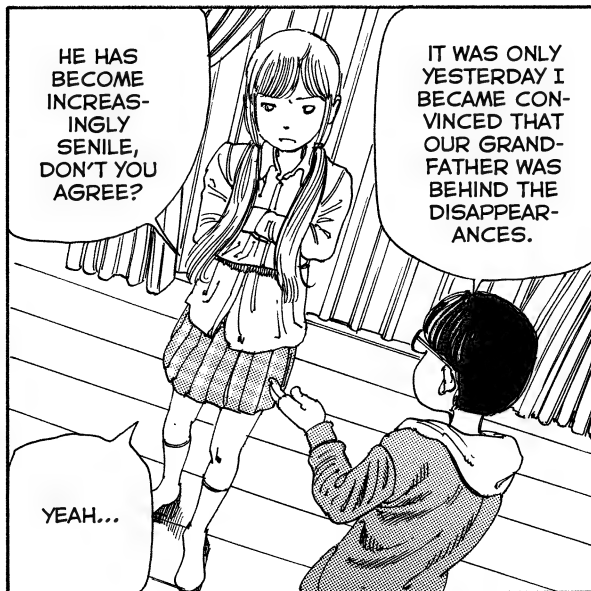








THIS
HAPPENED
WHEN YOU
WERE AT
SCHOOL.



YEAH...



THIS HOLE
WAS THE
SAME.



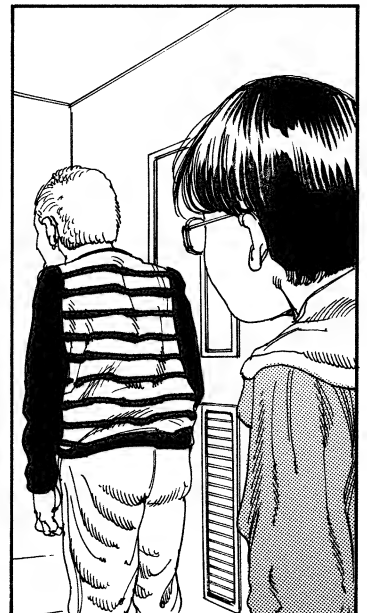
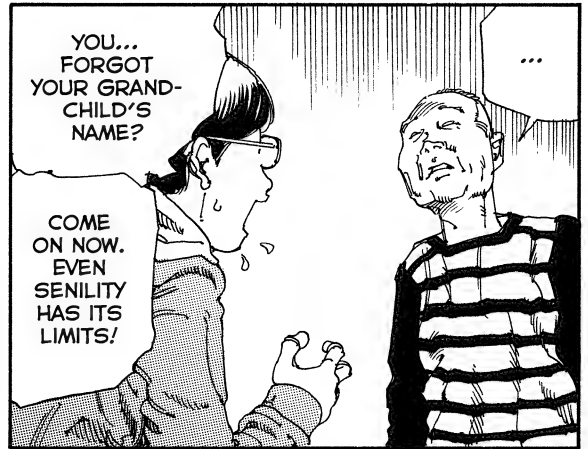
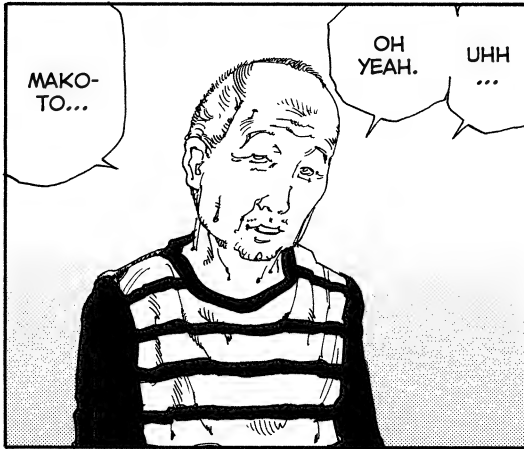
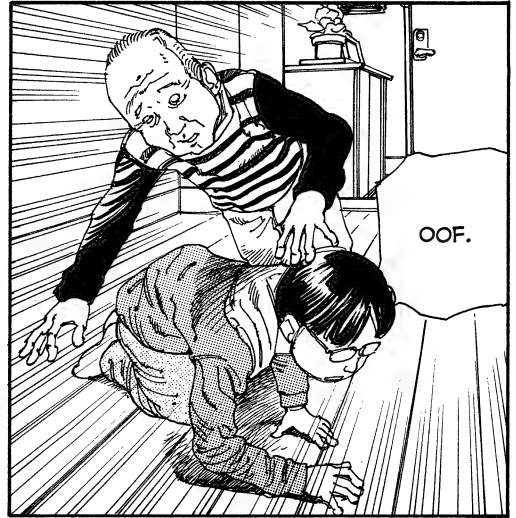
IT WAS LIKE
A PART OF MY
FOOT JUST...
DISAPPEARED.

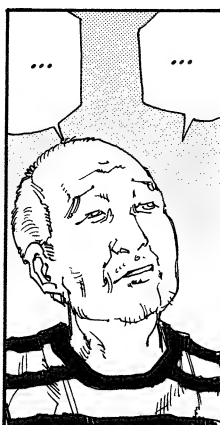
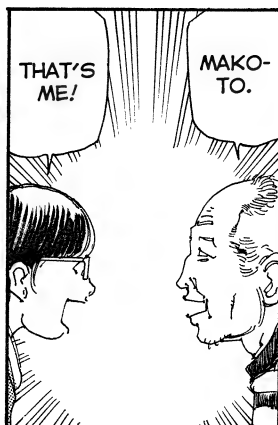
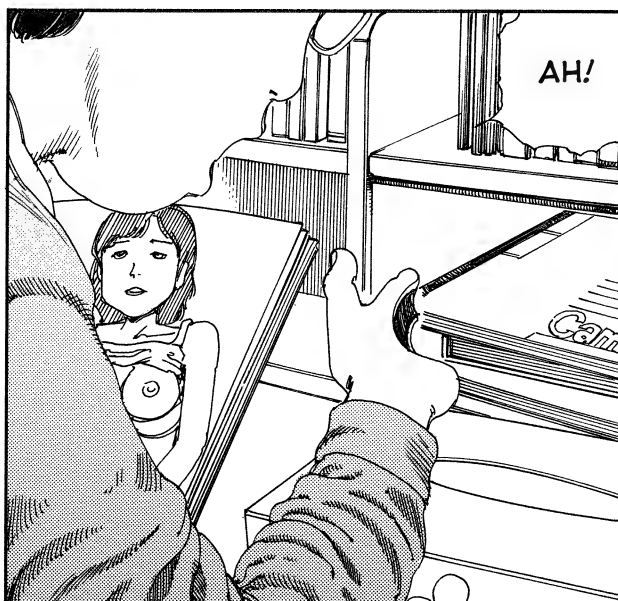


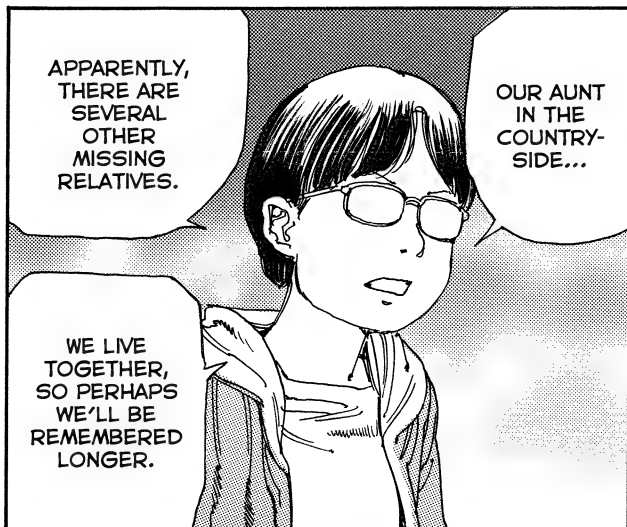
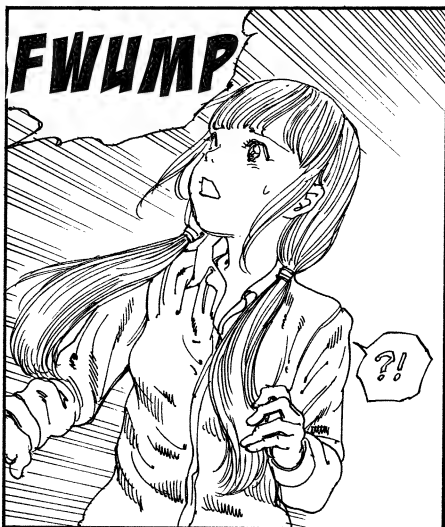
THERE
WAS NO
PAIN OR
BLOOD...

WHAT IS
THIS...?

MY FIRST
THOUGHT
WAS TO
GO TO
THE HOS-
PITAL...







APPARENTLY,
THERE ARE
SEVERAL
OTHER
MISSING
RELATIVES.

OUR AUNT
IN THE
COUNTRY-
SIDE...

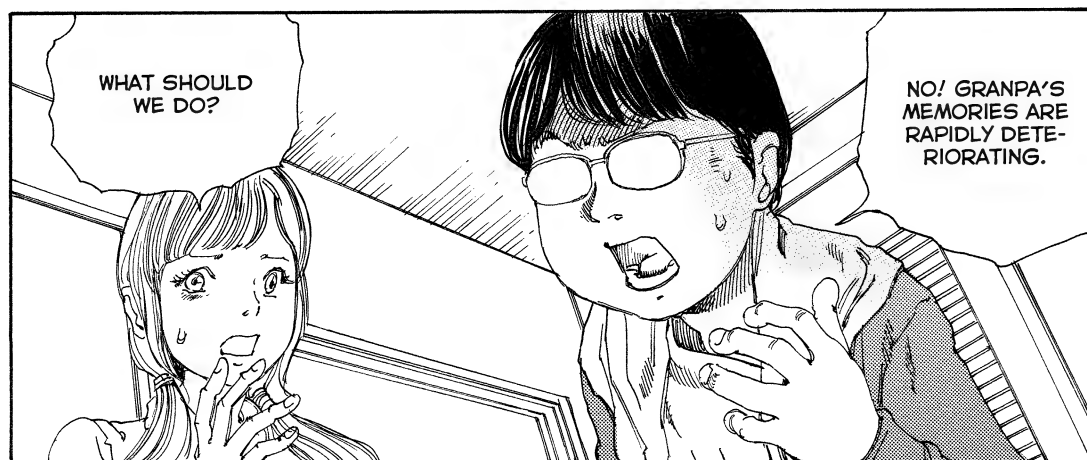
WE LIVE
TOGETHER,
SO PERHAPS
WE'LL BE
REMEMBERED
LONGER.



HEL...

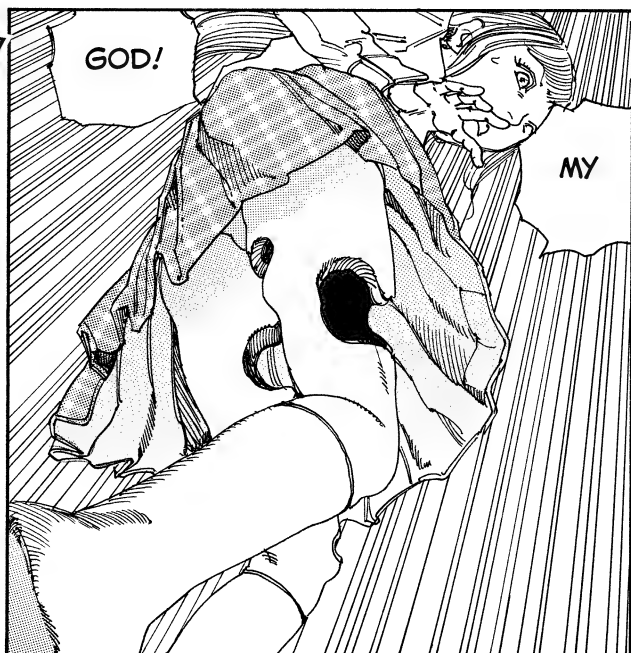
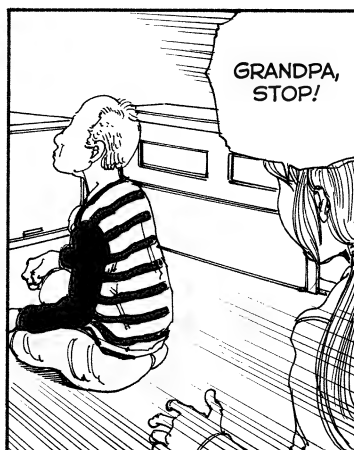
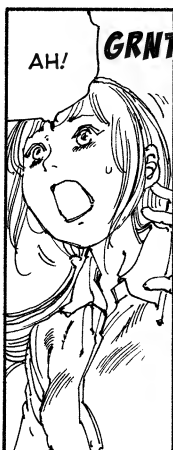
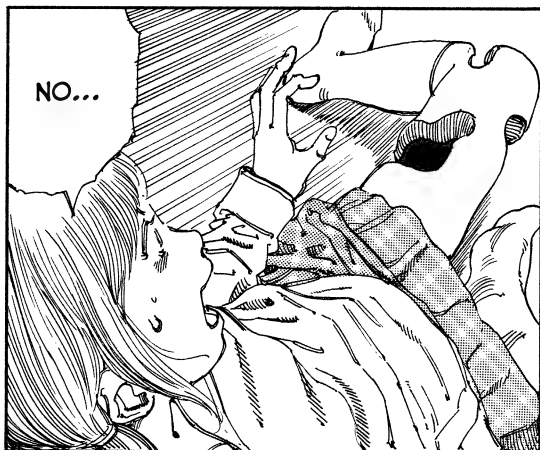
HELP...

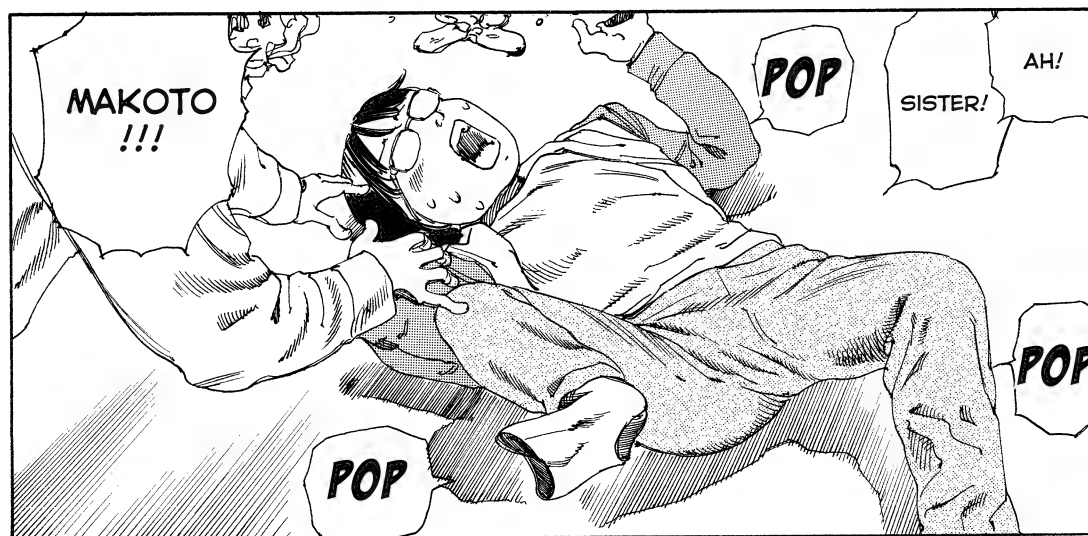
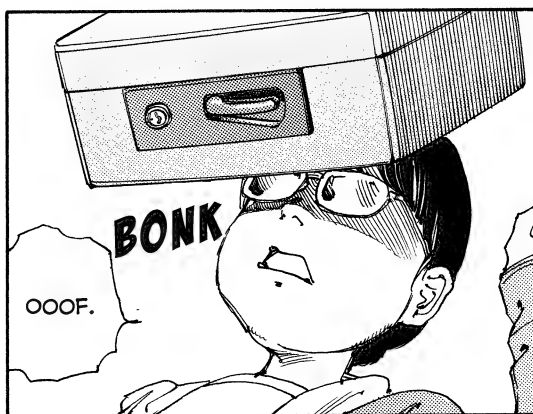
ME...

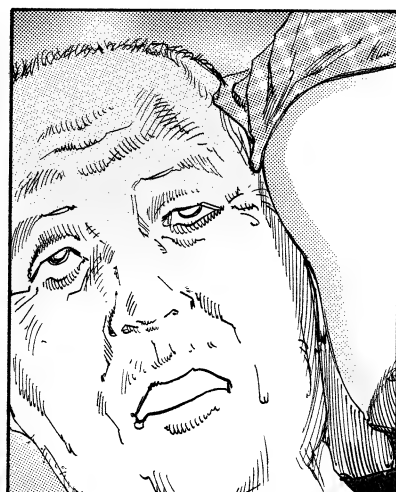
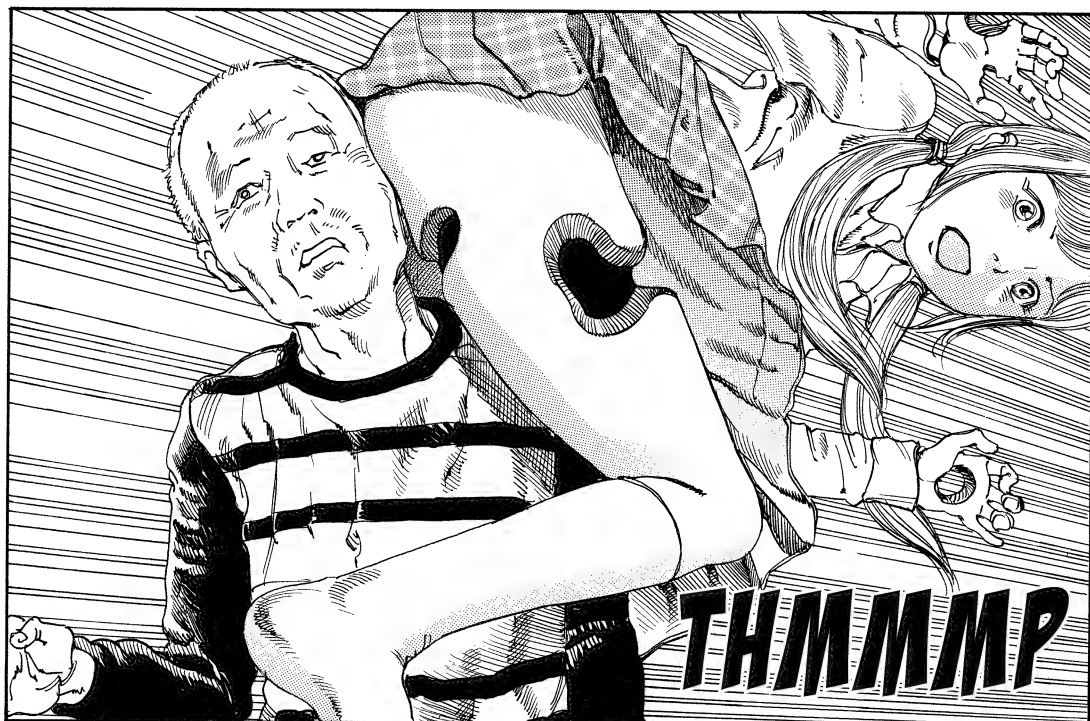


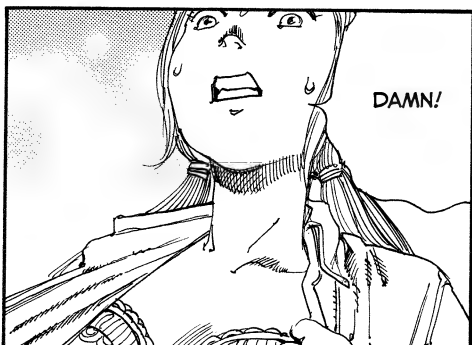
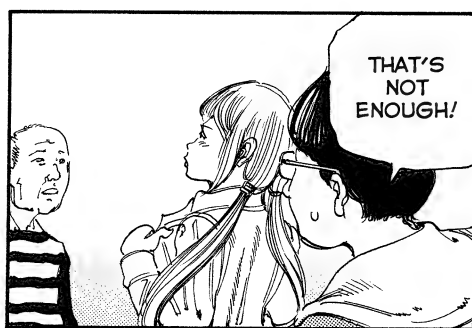
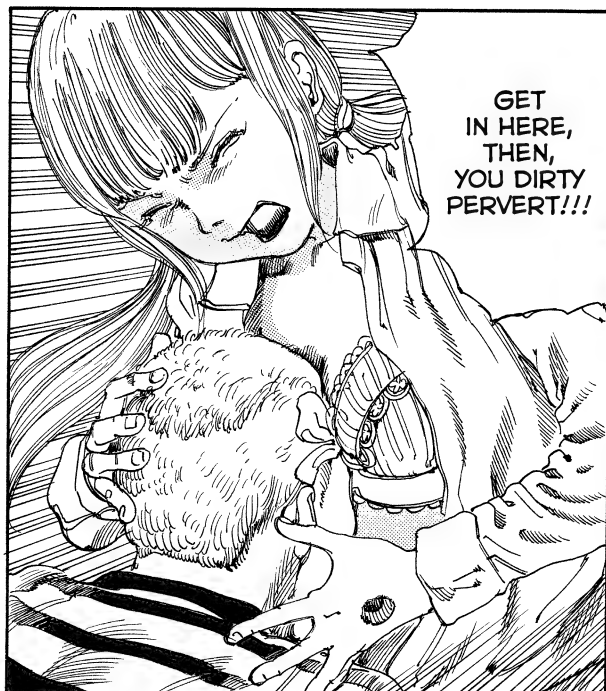
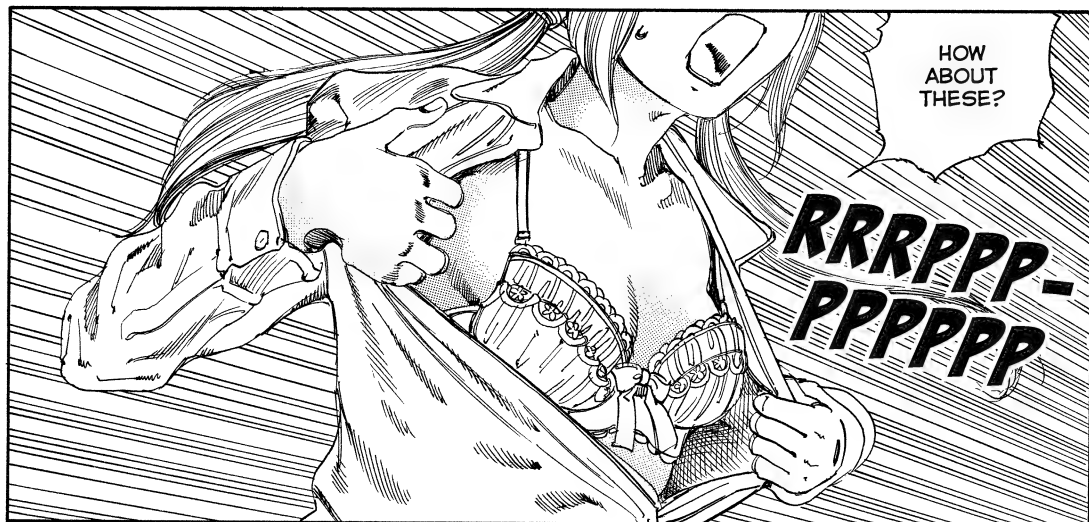
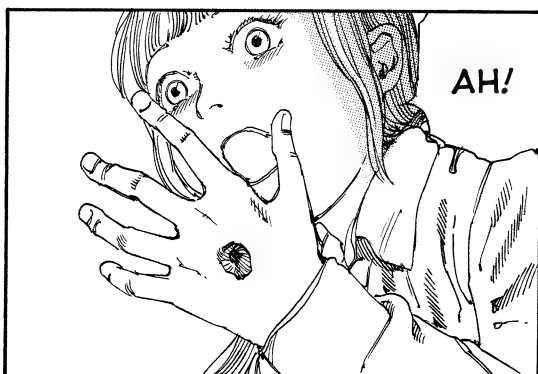
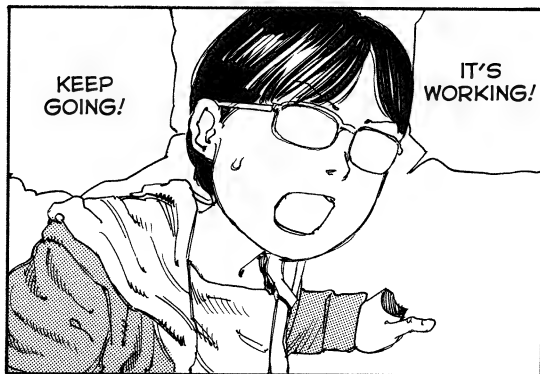
WHAT SHOULD
WE DO?

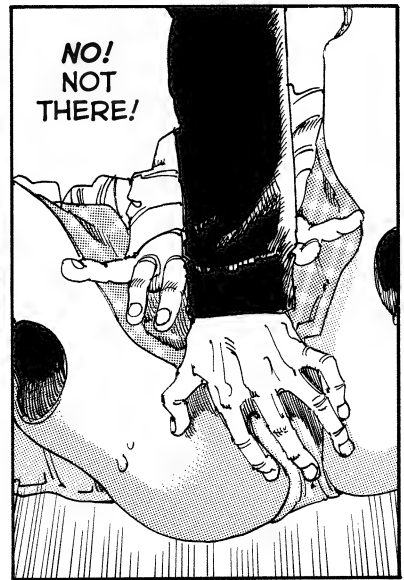
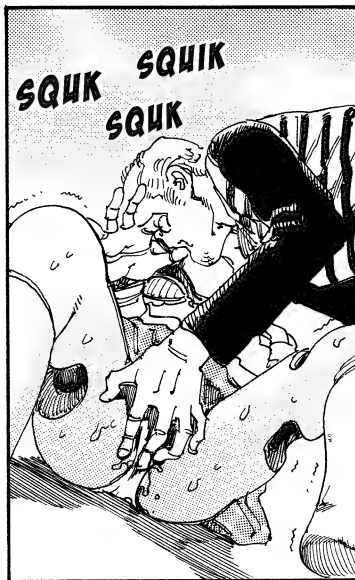
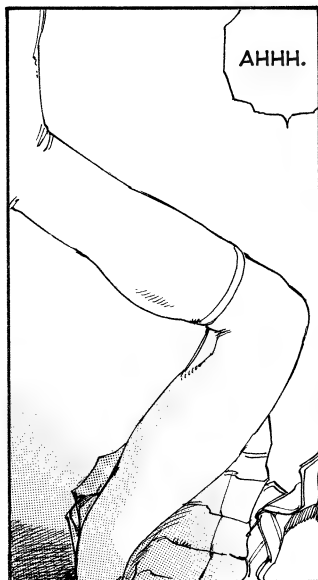
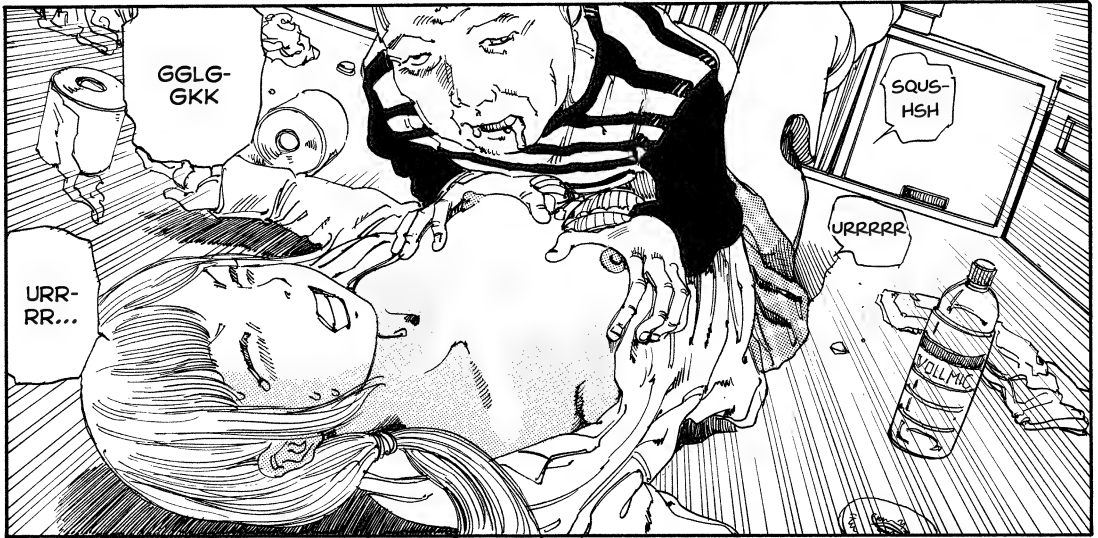
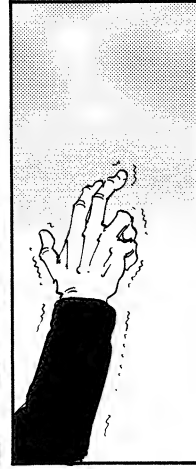
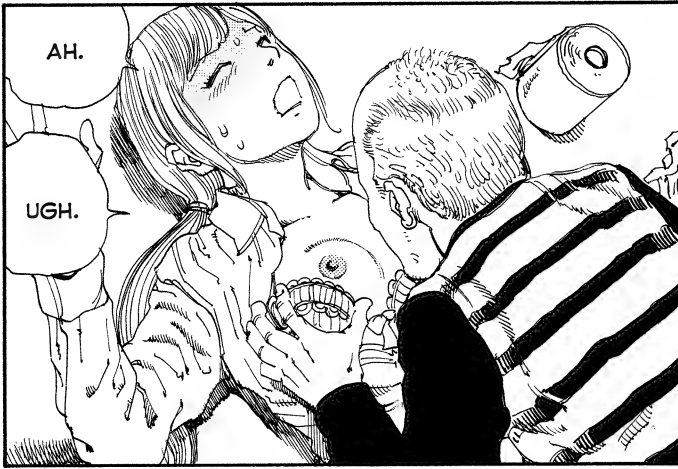
NO! GRANPA'S
MEMORIES ARE
RAPIDLY DETERI-
ORATING.











THAT SHOULD
WORK FOR HER.
BUT WHAT ABOUT
THE REST OF US?

HIS BODY IS
INSTINCTUALLY
REACTING TO
THE STIMULI.

**BABOOM
BOOMBA**

**FATHER-
IN-LAW!**

**DADDYYY
!!!**

**BABA-
BOOM**

BOOO



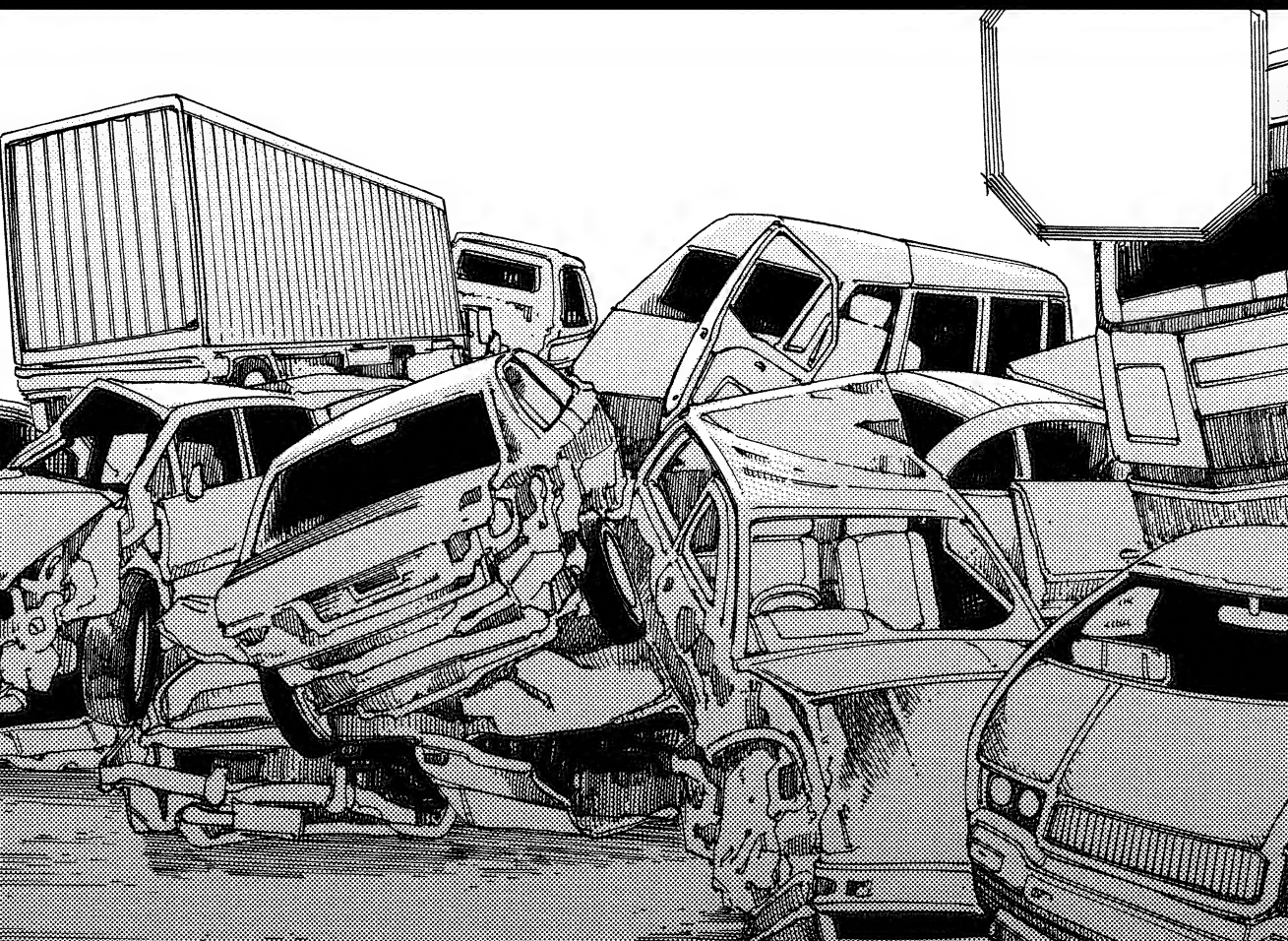
IT'S LOOKING LIKE
SUNSHINE TOMORROW,
FOLOWED BY A LATE
AFTERNOON STORM.

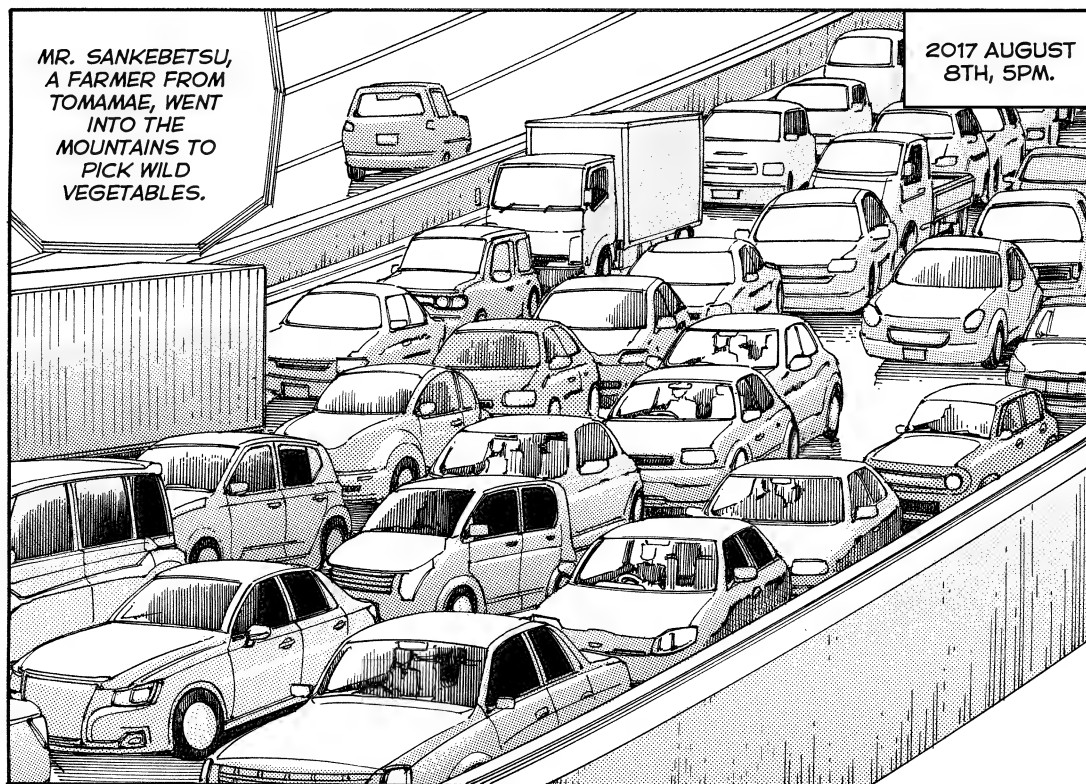
PLEASE TAKE
CAUTION WHEN
GOING TO WORK.

THE OUTBREAK
SEEMS TO HAVE
ORIGINATED FROM
THE EAST.

B L O O D H A R V E S T

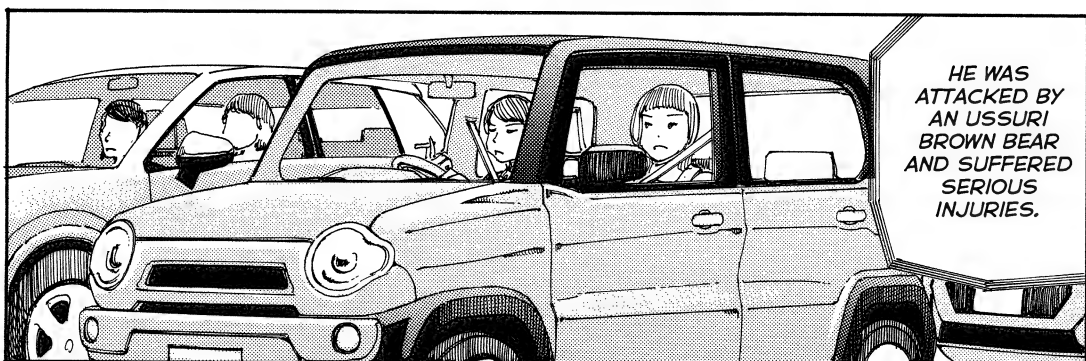
血 の 収 穫



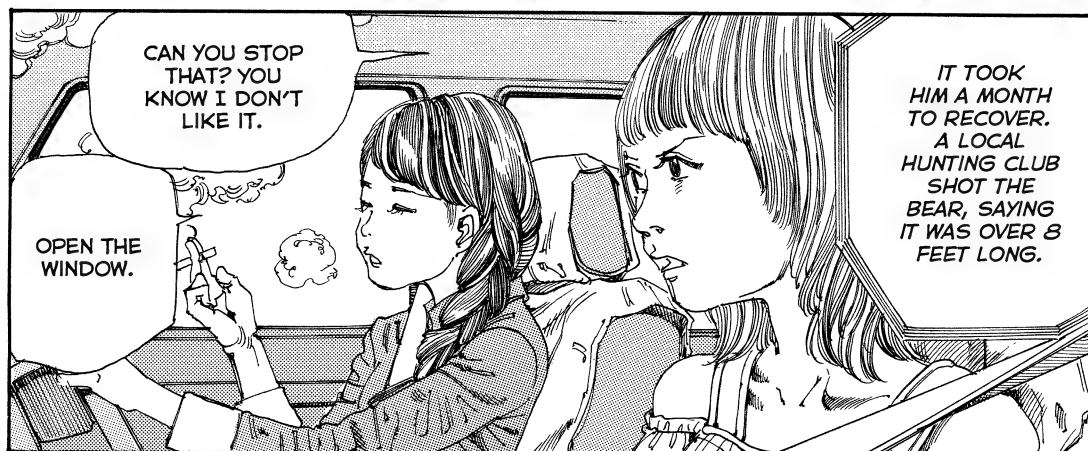


MR. SANKEBETSU,
A FARMER FROM
TOMAMAE, WENT
INTO THE
MOUNTAINS TO
PICK WILD
VEGETABLES.

2017 AUGUST
8TH, 5PM.



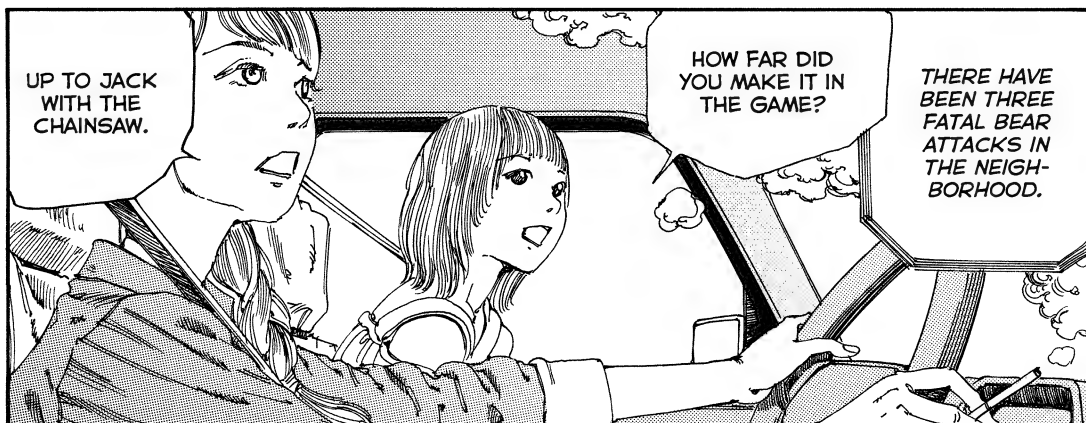
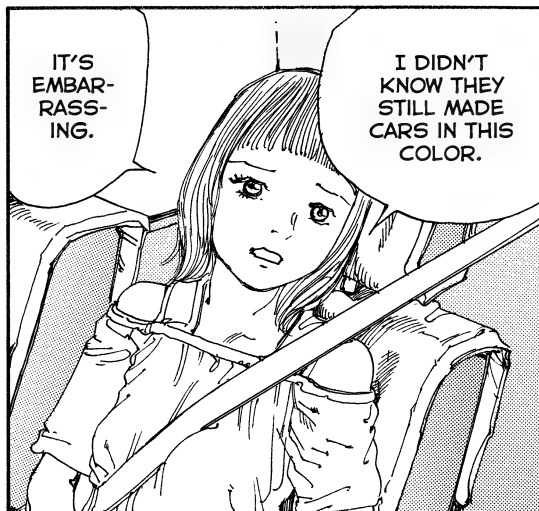
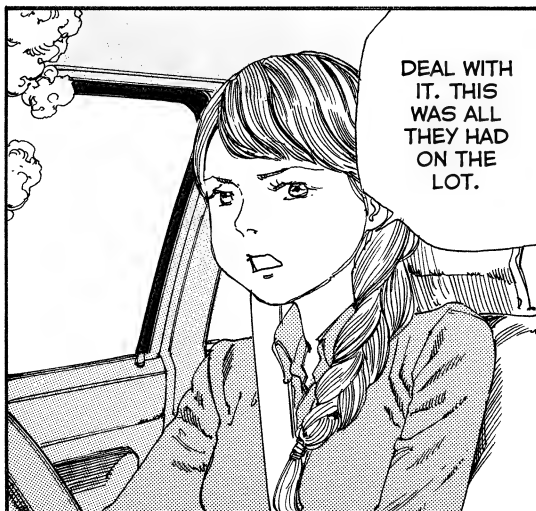
HE WAS
ATTACKED BY
AN USSURI
BROWN BEAR
AND SUFFERED
SERIOUS
INJURIES.

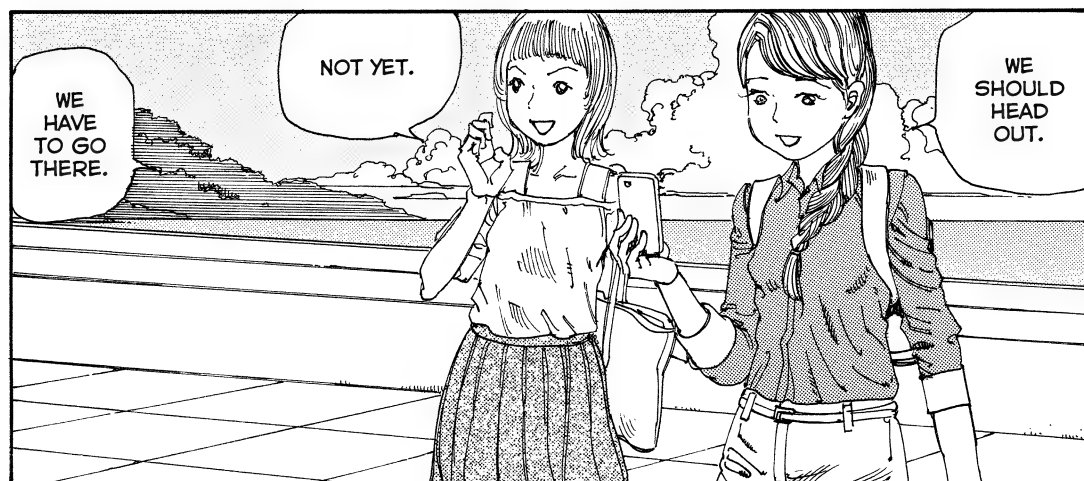
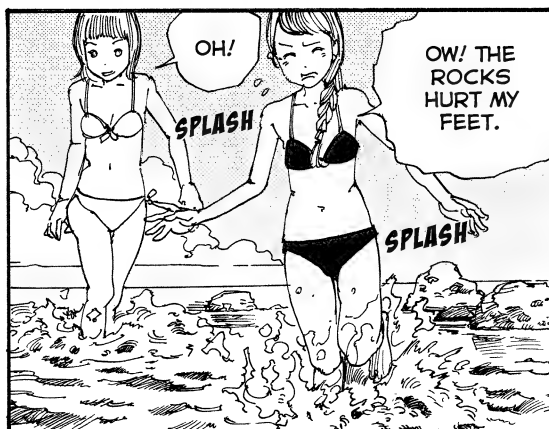
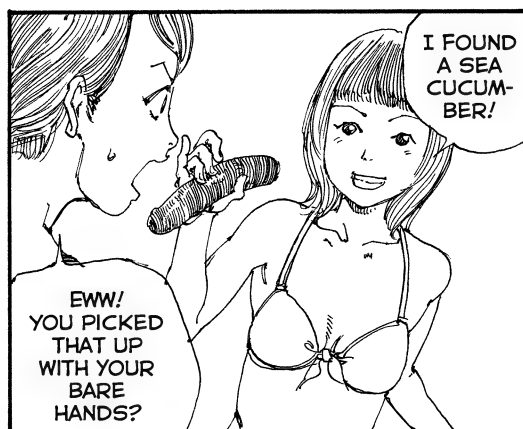


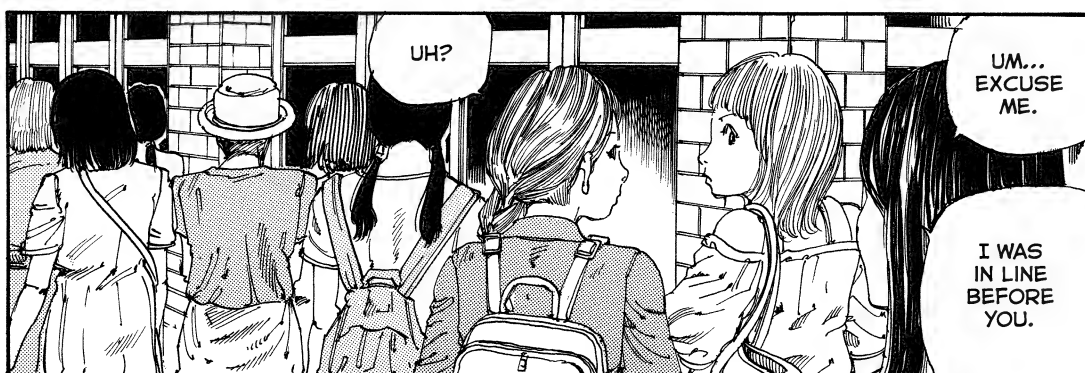
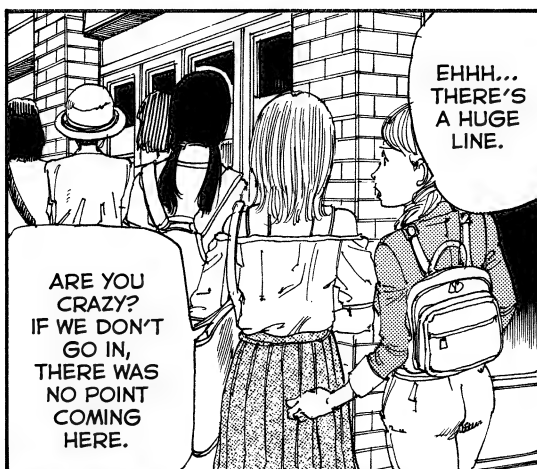
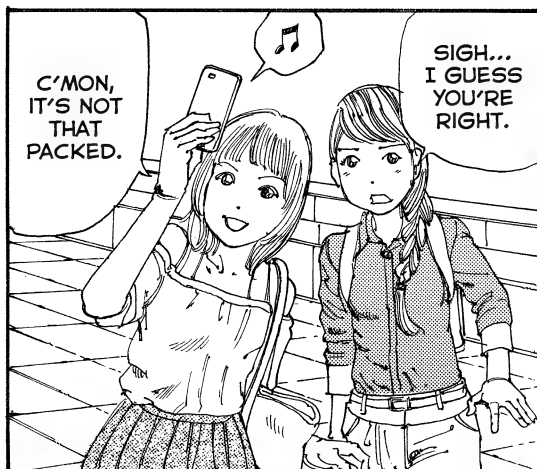
CAN YOU STOP
THAT? YOU
KNOW I DON'T
LIKE IT.

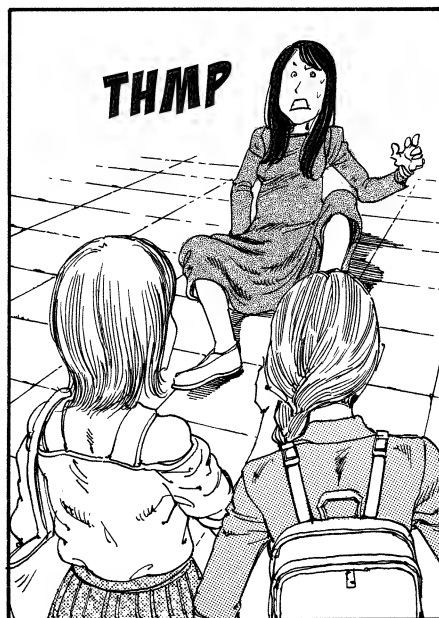
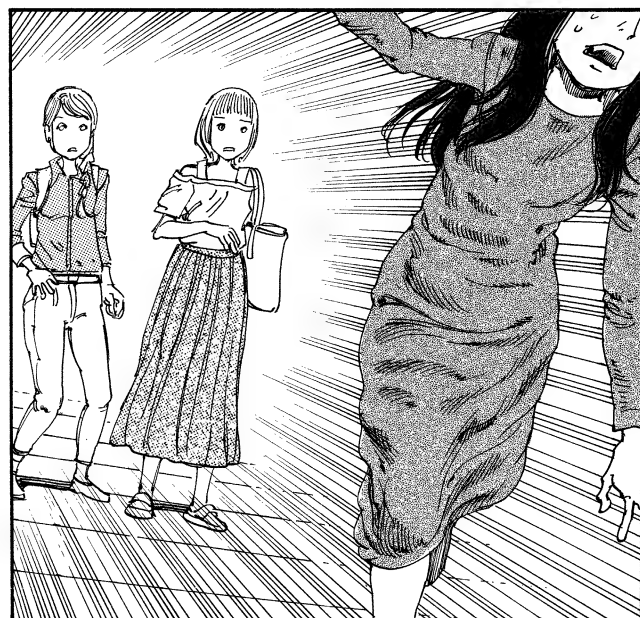
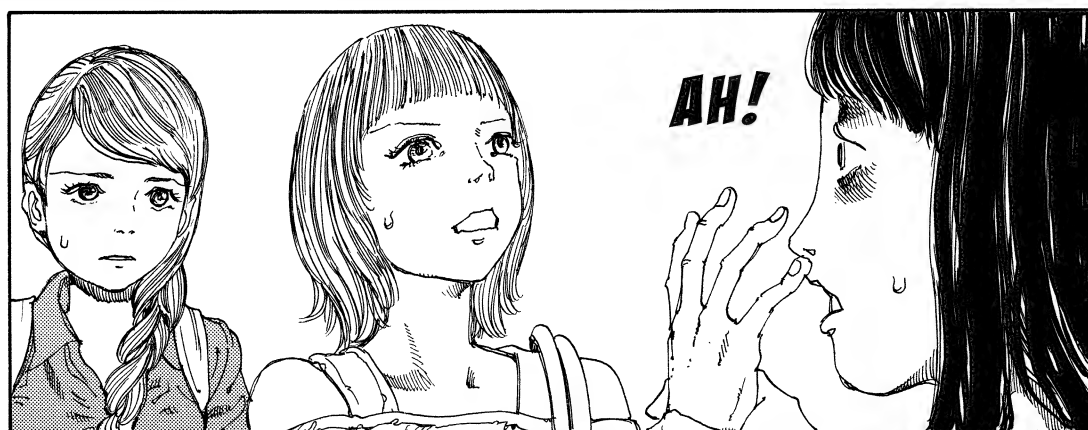
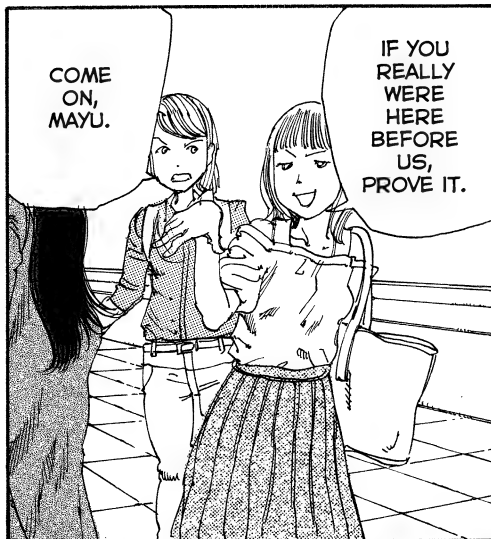
OPEN THE
WINDOW.

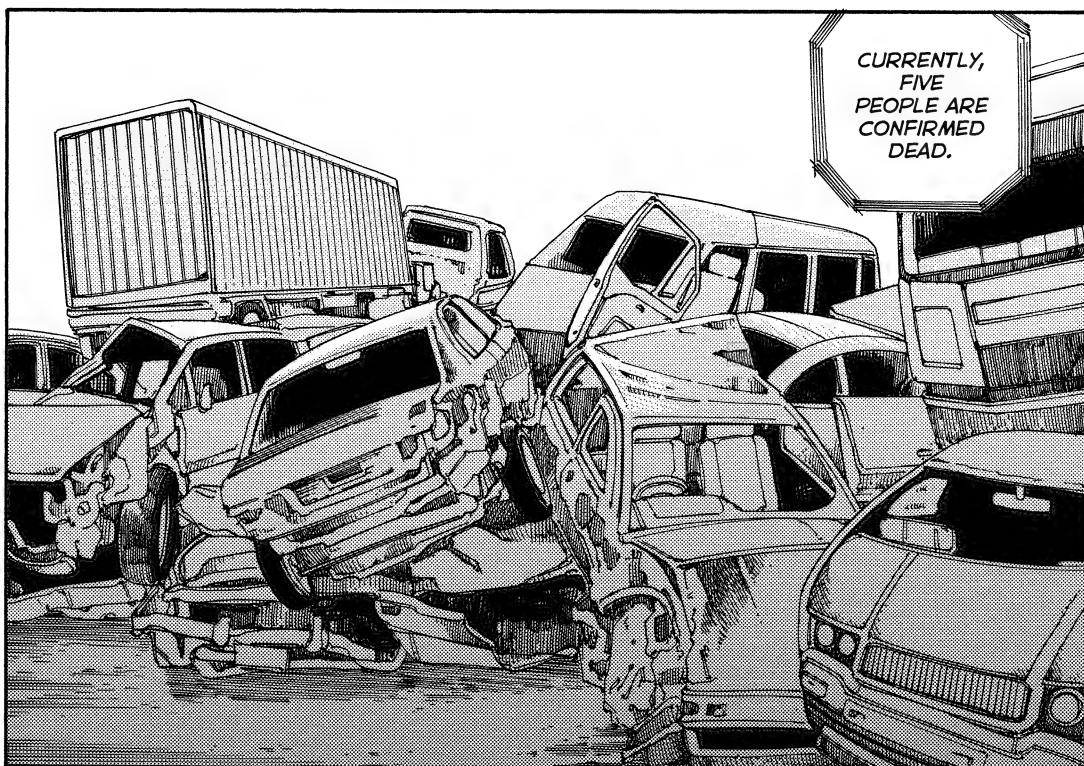
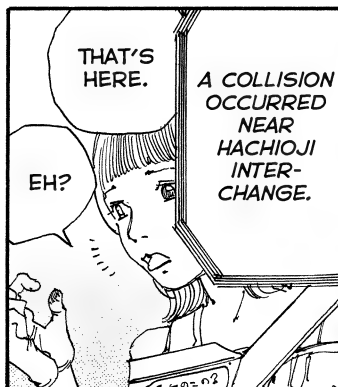
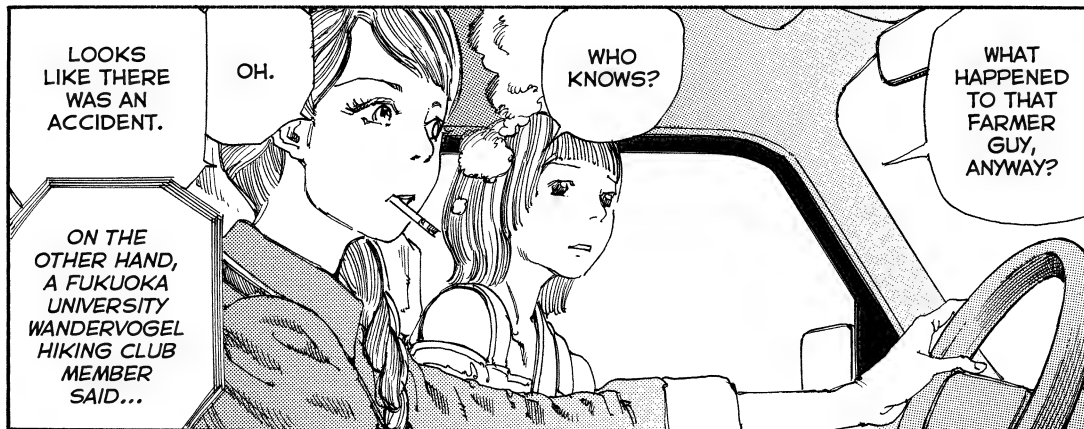
IT TOOK
HIM A MONTH
TO RECOVER.
A LOCAL
HUNTING CLUB
SHOT THE
BEAR, SAYING
IT WAS OVER 8
FEET LONG.

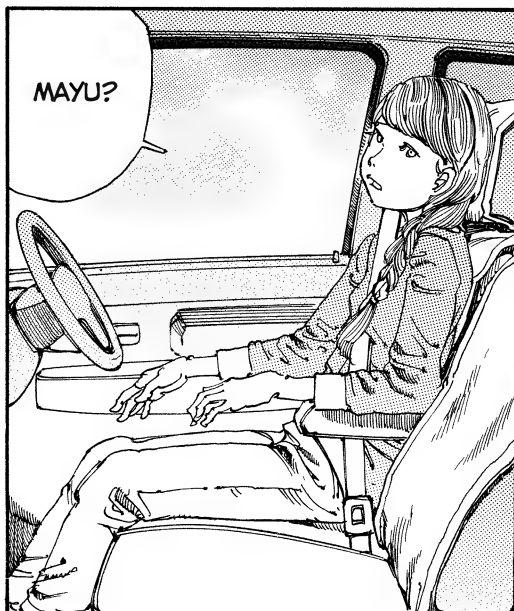
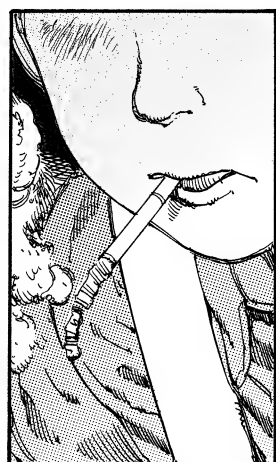
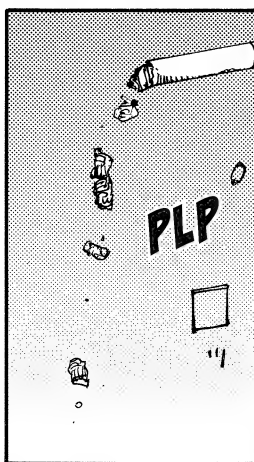
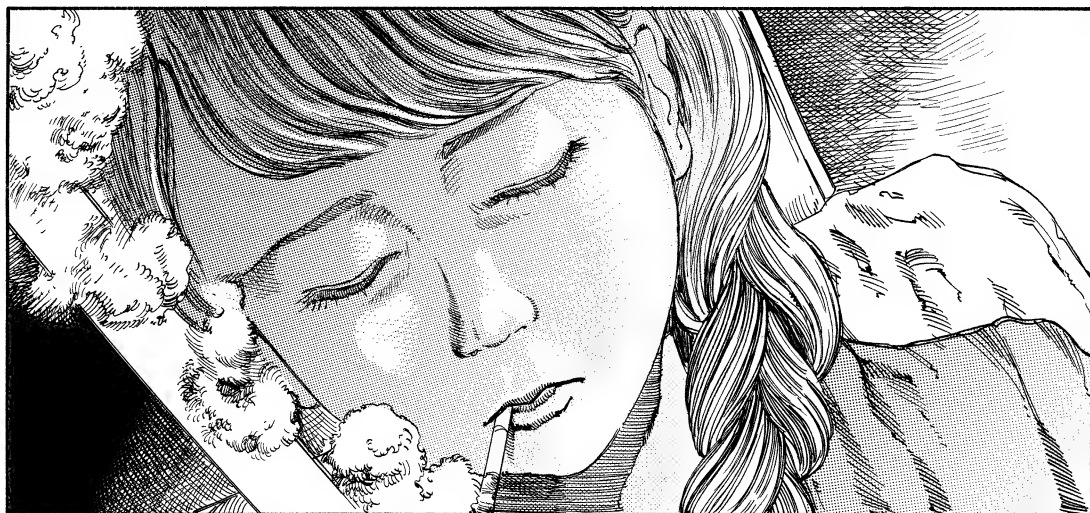


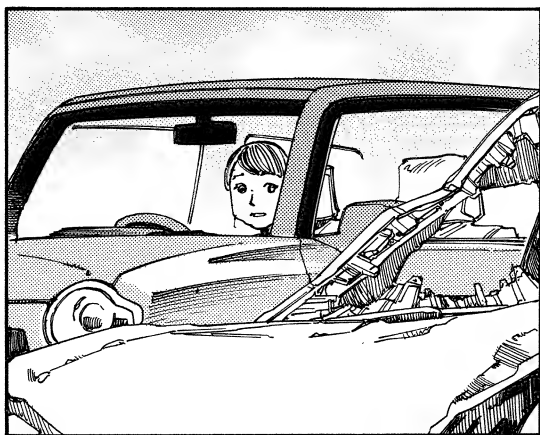
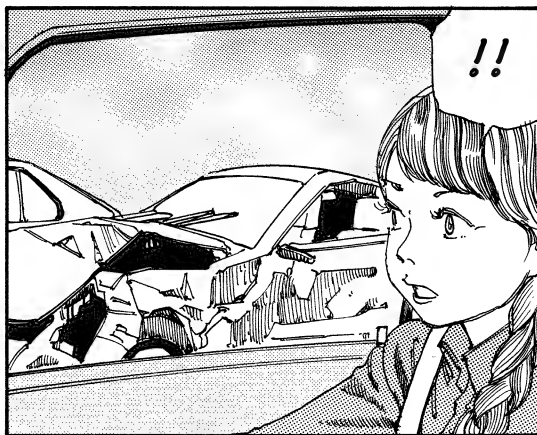
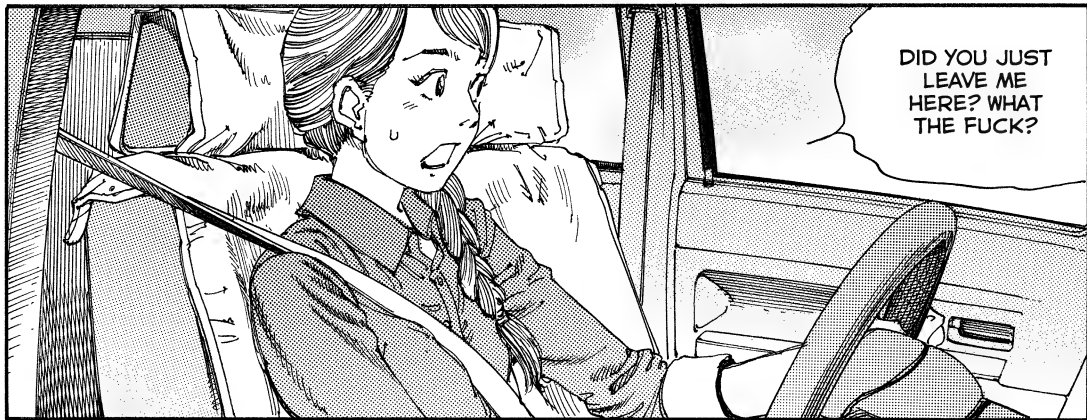


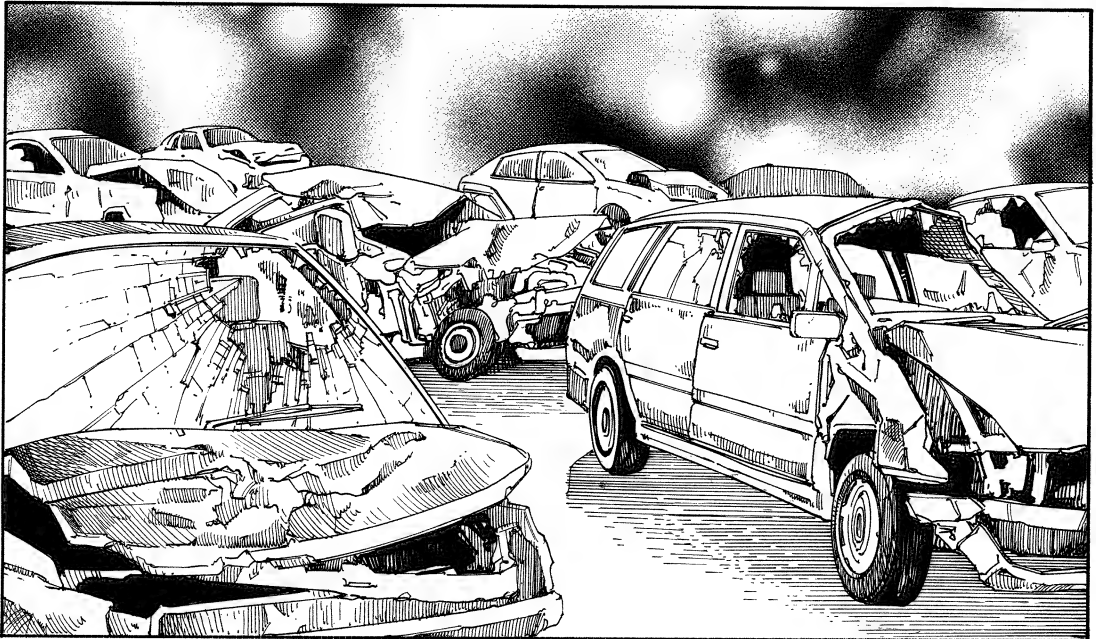
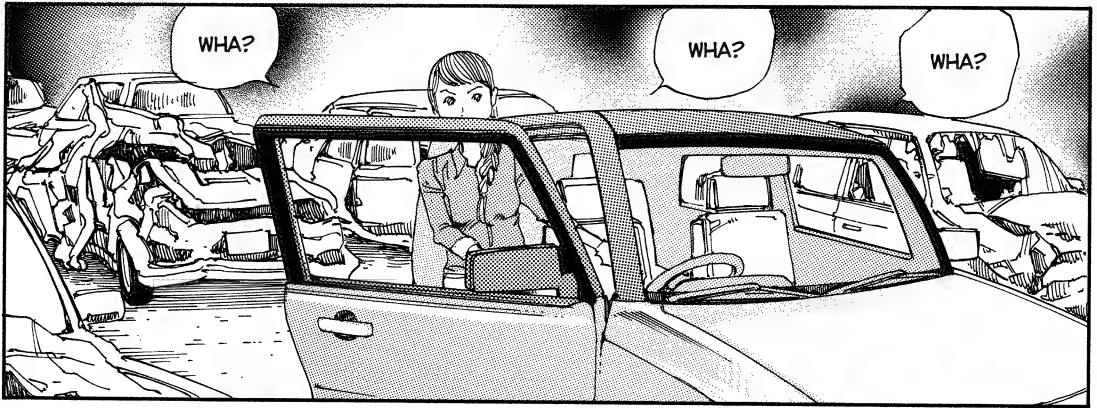


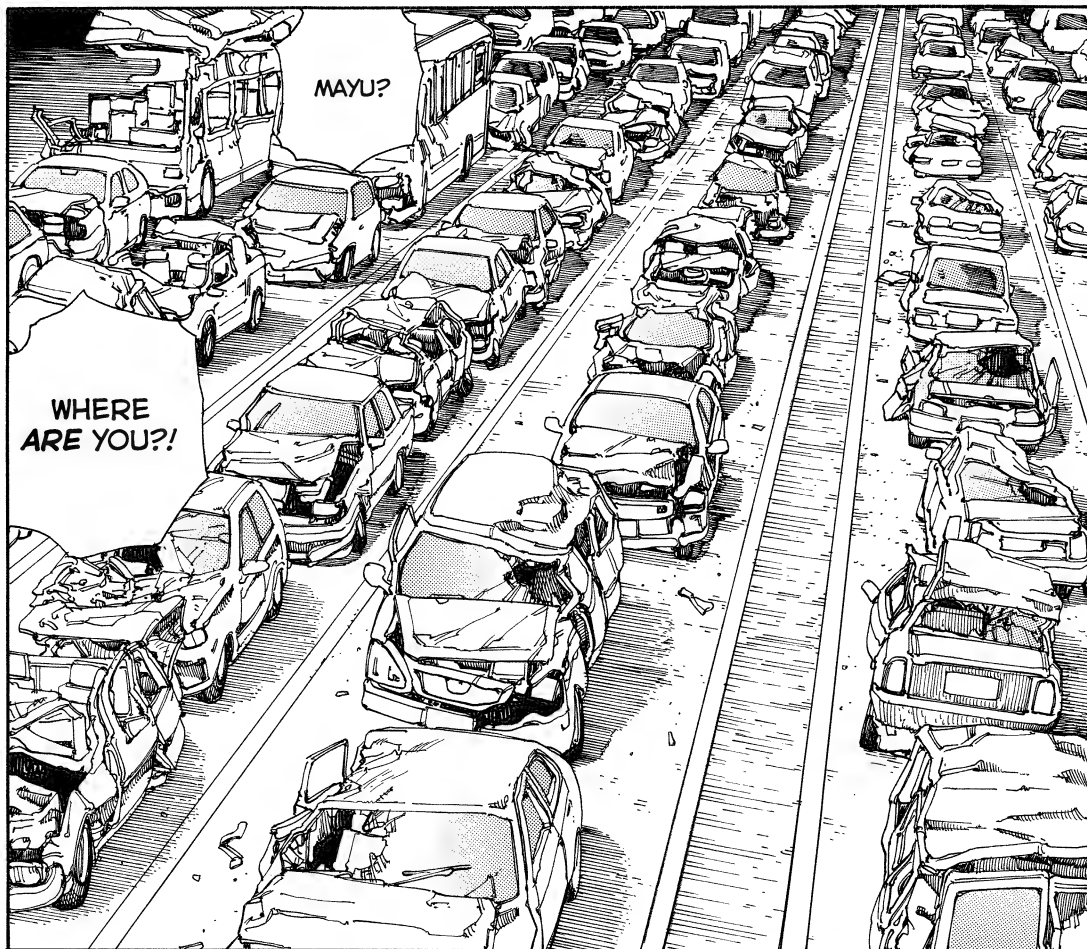


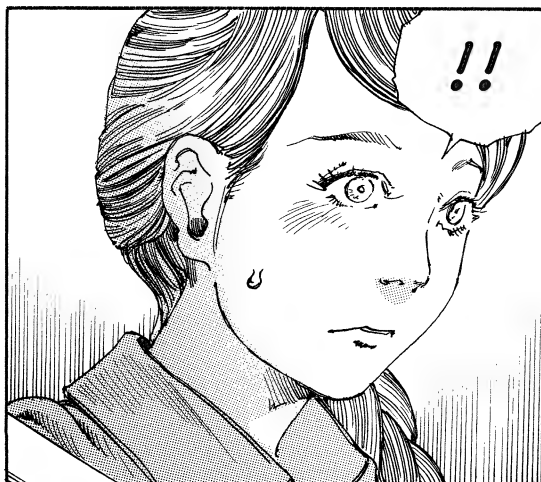
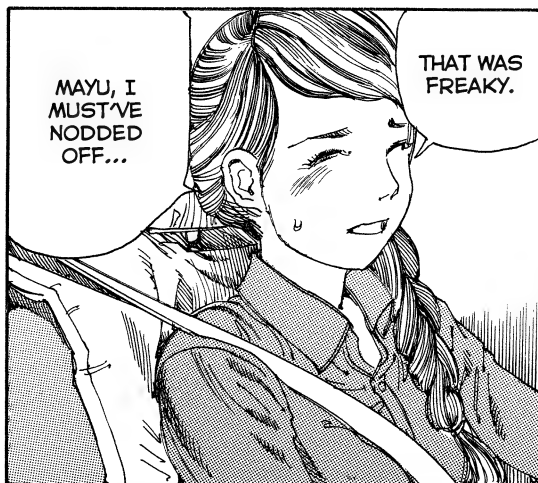


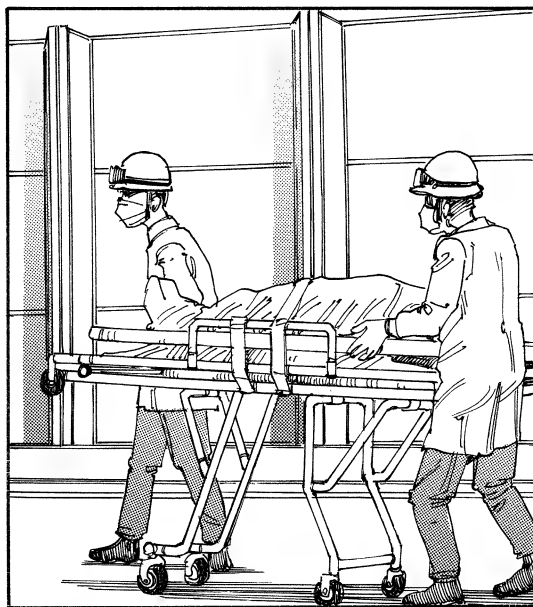
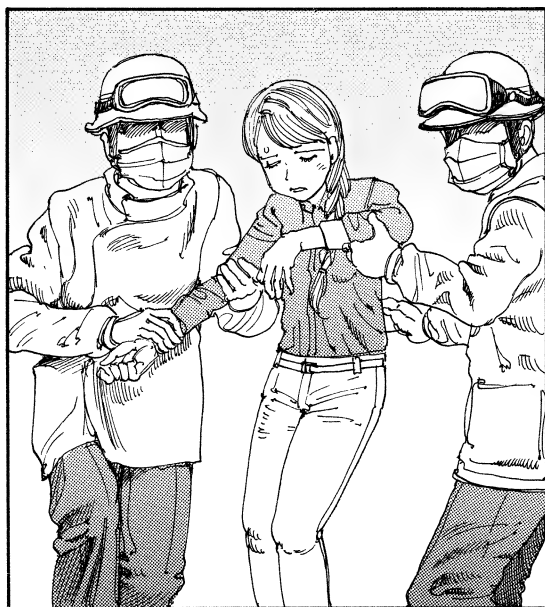
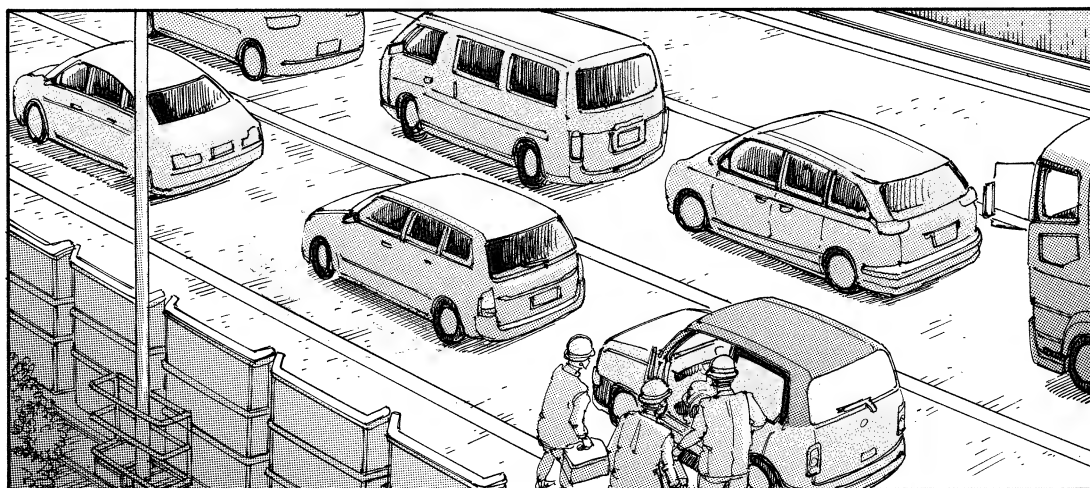
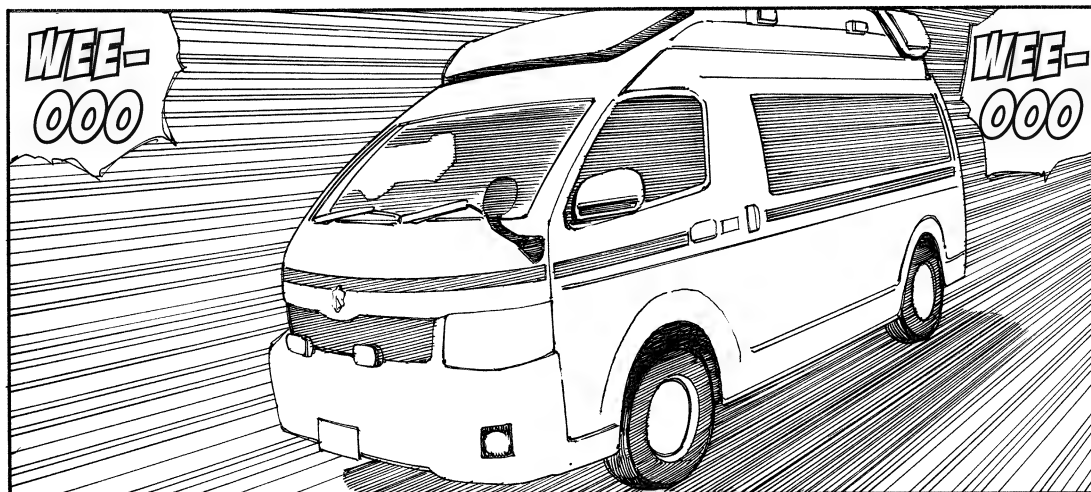




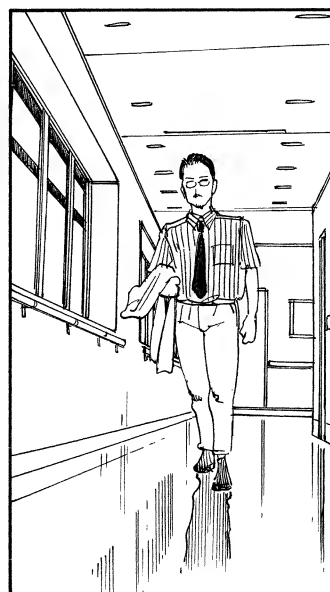
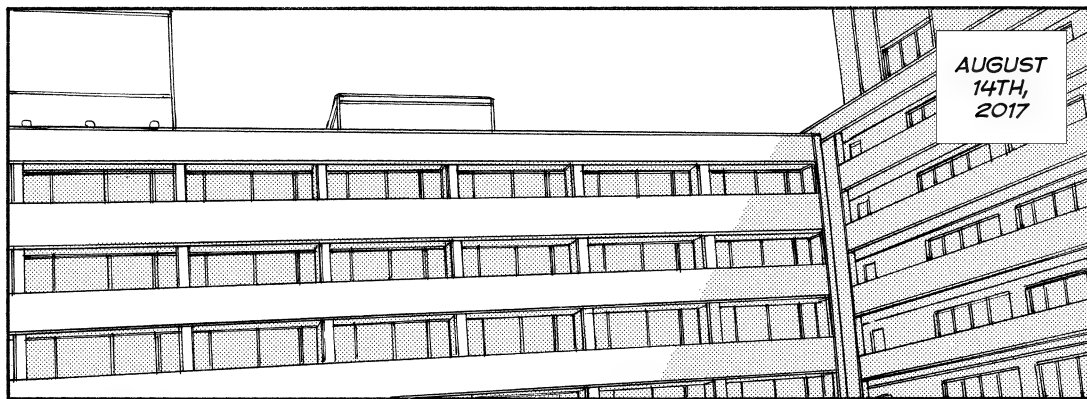


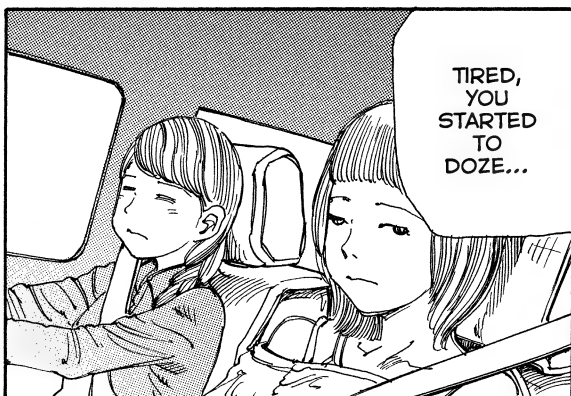
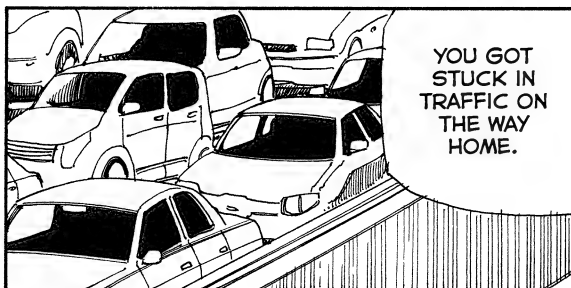
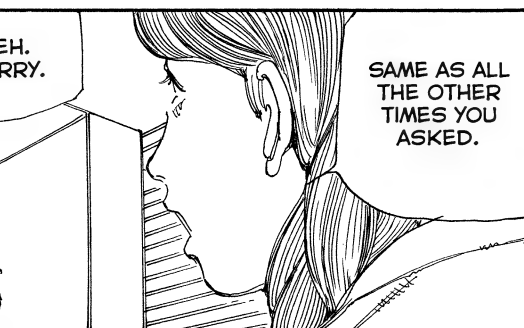
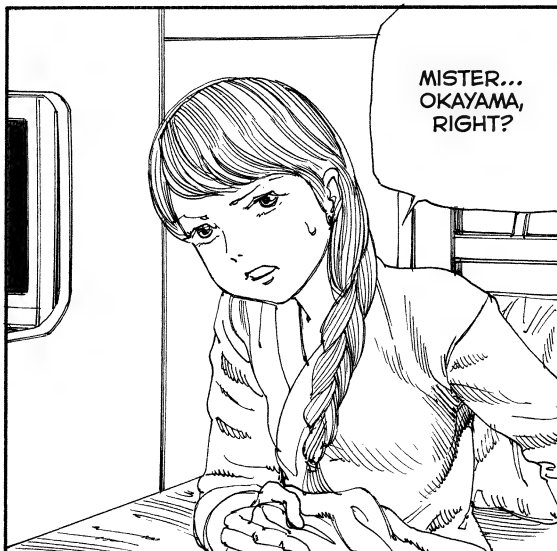


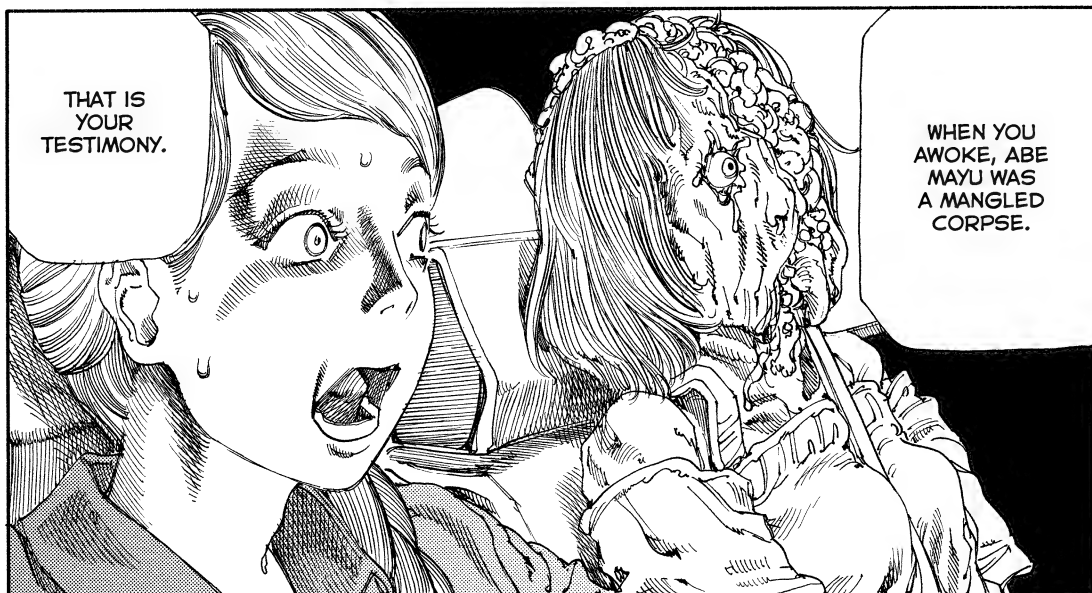




AUGUST
14TH,
2017

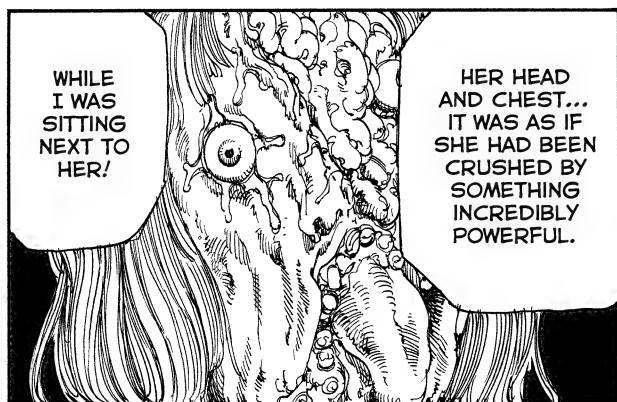






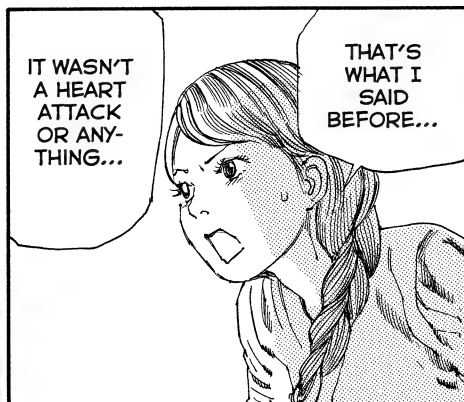
THAT IS
YOUR
TESTIMONY.

WHEN YOU
AWOKE, ABE
MAYU WAS
A MANGLED
CORPSE.



WHILE
I WAS
SITTING
NEXT TO
HER!

HER HEAD
AND CHEST...
IT WAS AS IF
SHE HAD BEEN
CRUSHED BY
SOMETHING
INCREDIBLY
POWERFUL.



IT WASN'T
A HEART
ATTACK
OR ANY-
THING...

THAT'S
WHAT I
SAID
BEFORE...



HYPOTHETI-
CALLY...

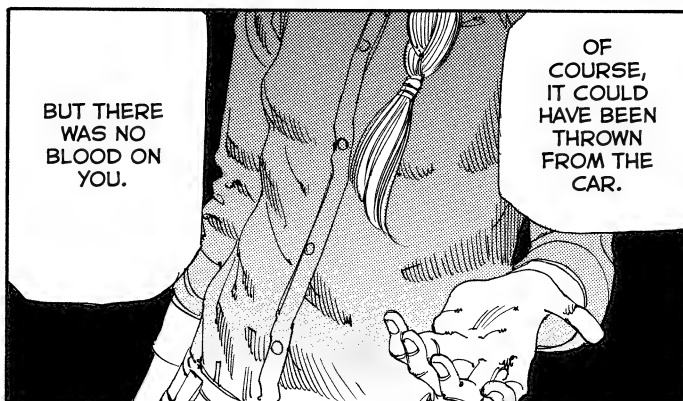
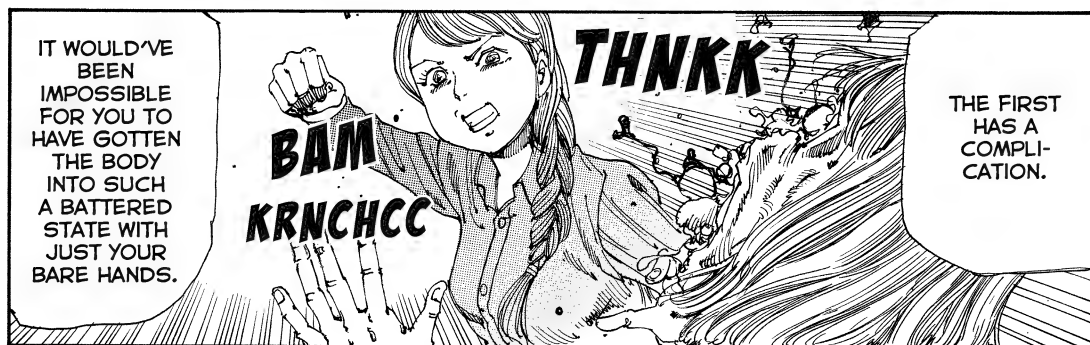
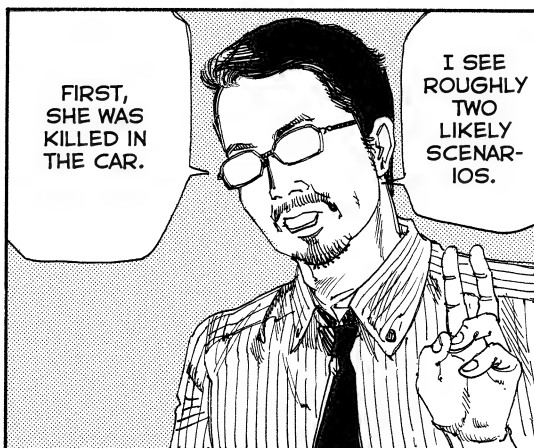
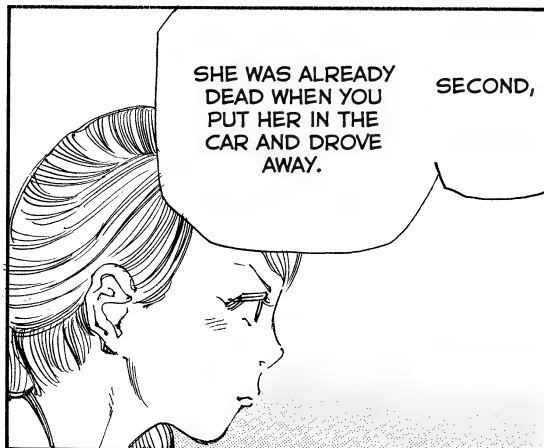
MY JOB IS
TO LOOK
AT THIS
FROM
EVERY
POSSIBLE
ANGLE.

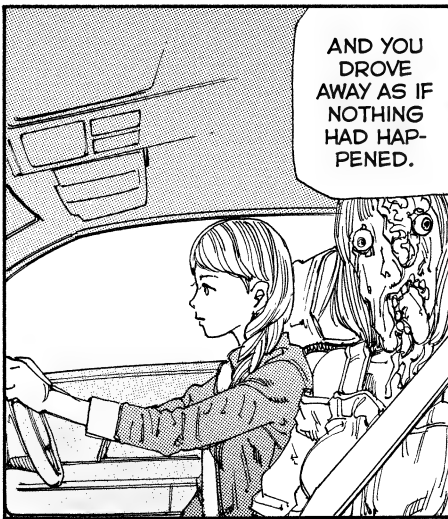
INCLUDING
THE POS-
SIBILITY
THAT YOU
MIGHT BE
LYING.



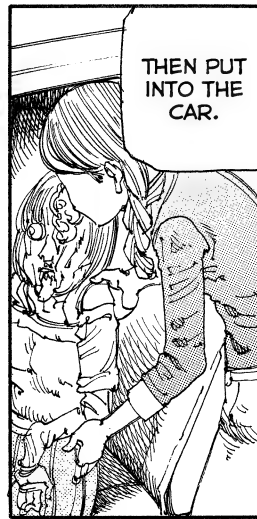
THAT'S
WHY WE'RE
INVESTIG-
ATING.

EXPLAIN
THAT TO
ME? HOW?!

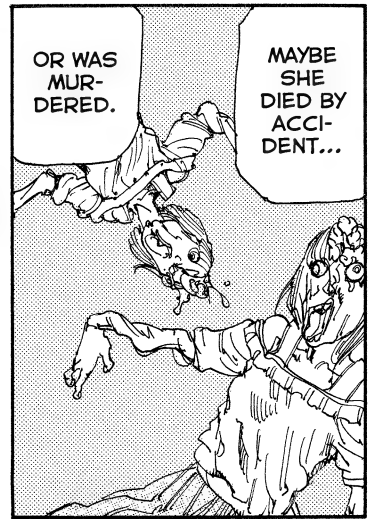




AND YOU
DROVE
AWAY AS IF
NOTHING
HAD HAP-
PENED.

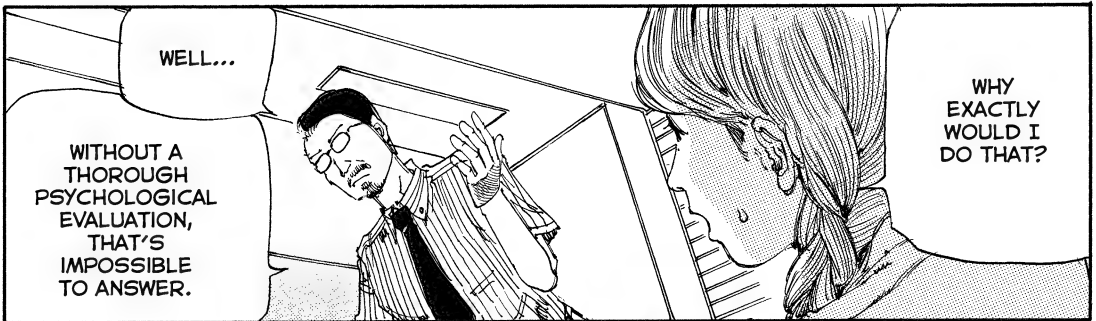


THEN PUT
INTO THE
CAR.



OR WAS
MUR-
DERED.

MAYBE
SHE
DIED BY
ACCI-
DENT...



WELL...

WITHOUT A
THOROUGH
PSYCHOLOGICAL
EVALUATION,
THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
TO ANSWER.

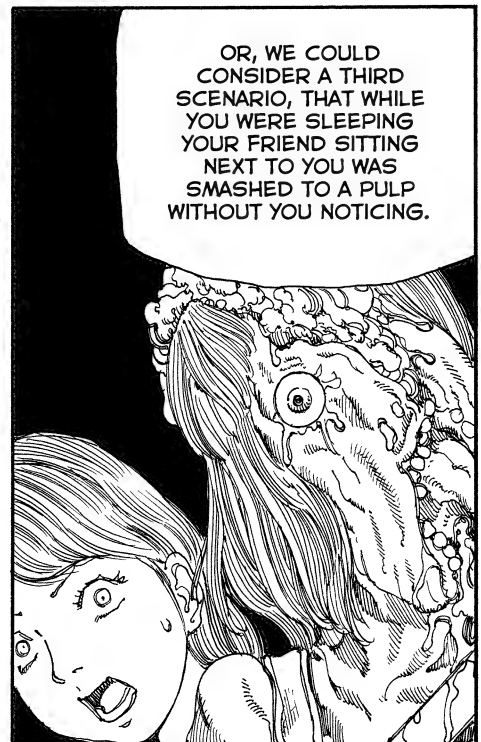
WHY
EXACTLY
WOULD I
DO THAT?



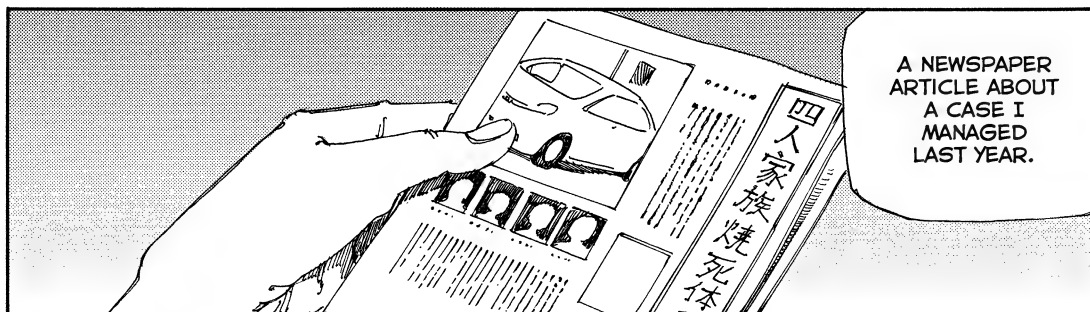
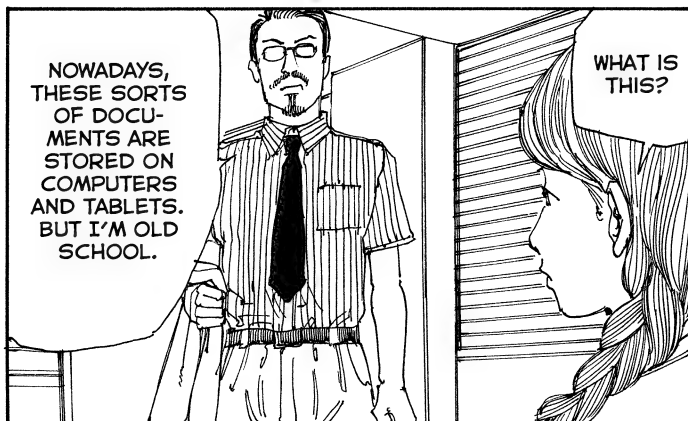
WHEN
YOU PUT
IT THAT
WAY...

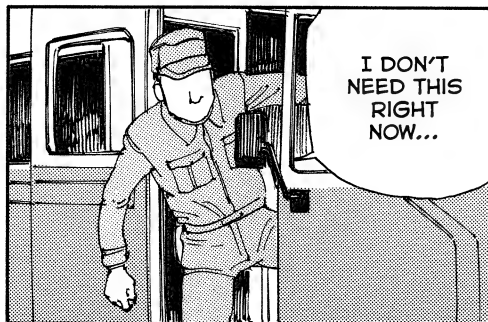
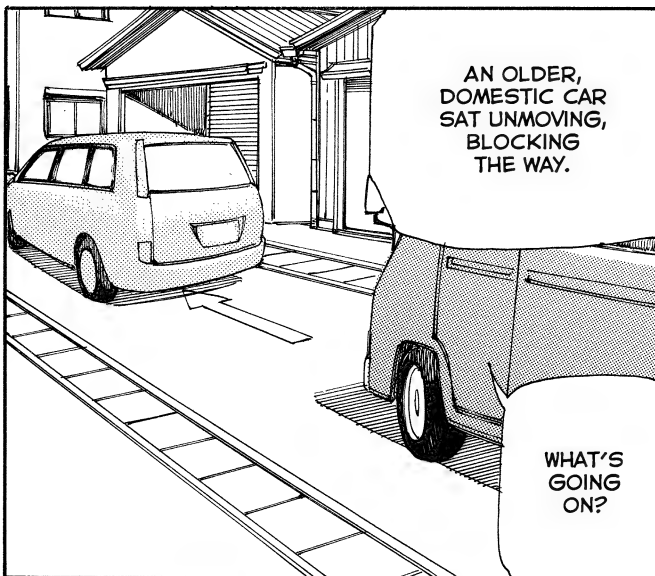
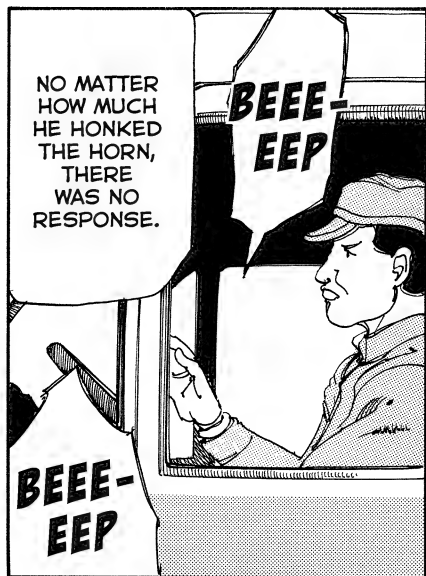
EXACTLY.
NOW YOU
UNDER-
STAND.

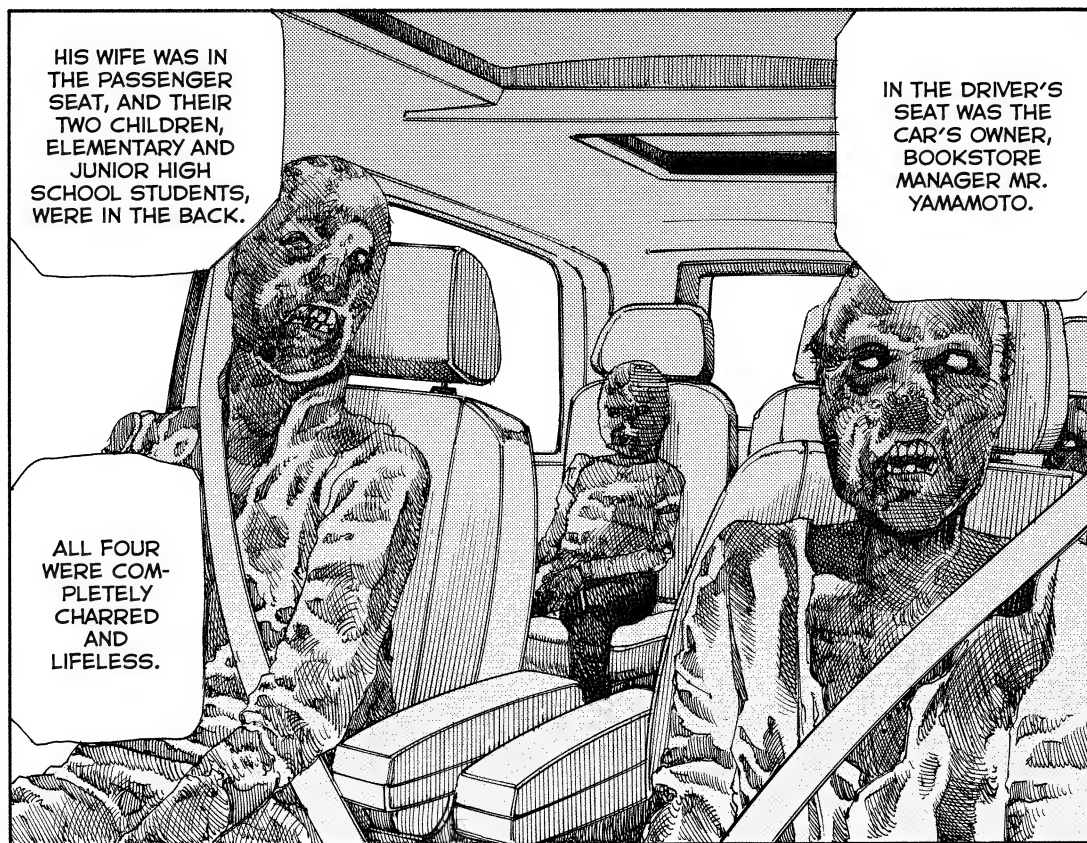
OF THESE
THREE
SCENARIOS,
WHICH DO YOU
THINK IS THE
MOST LIKELY?



OR, WE COULD
CONSIDER A THIRD
SCENARIO, THAT WHILE
YOU WERE SLEEPING
YOUR FRIEND SITTING
NEXT TO YOU WAS
SMASHED TO A PULP
WITHOUT YOU NOTICING.



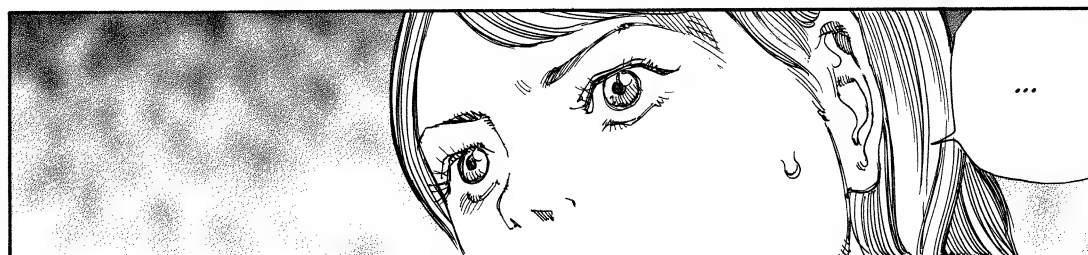




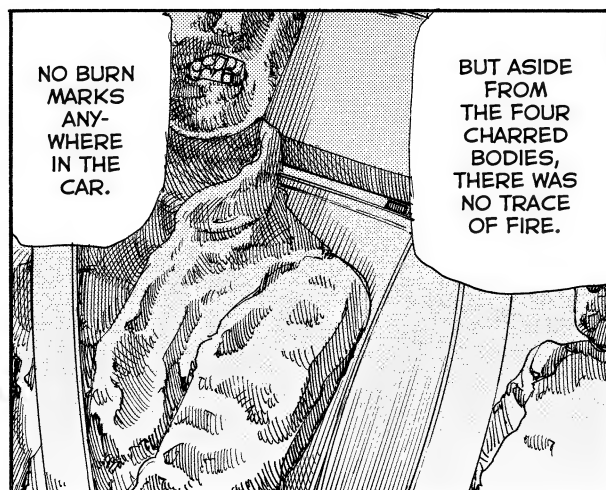
HIS WIFE WAS IN THE PASSENGER SEAT, AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN, ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, WERE IN THE BACK.

IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT WAS THE CAR'S OWNER, BOOKSTORE MANAGER MR. YAMAMOTO.

ALL FOUR WERE COMPLETELY CHARRED AND LIFELESS.

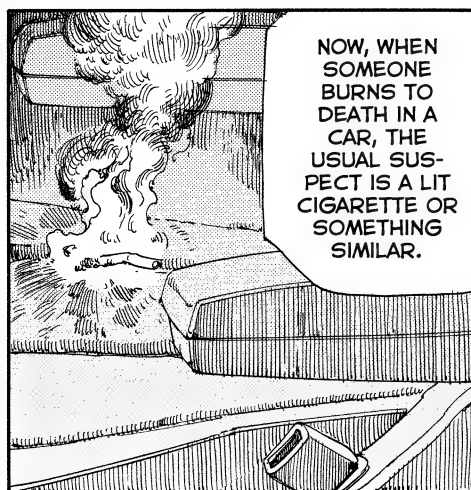


...

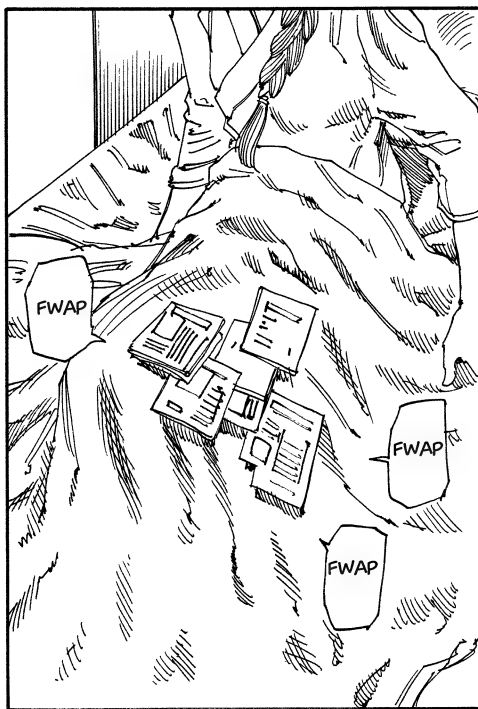
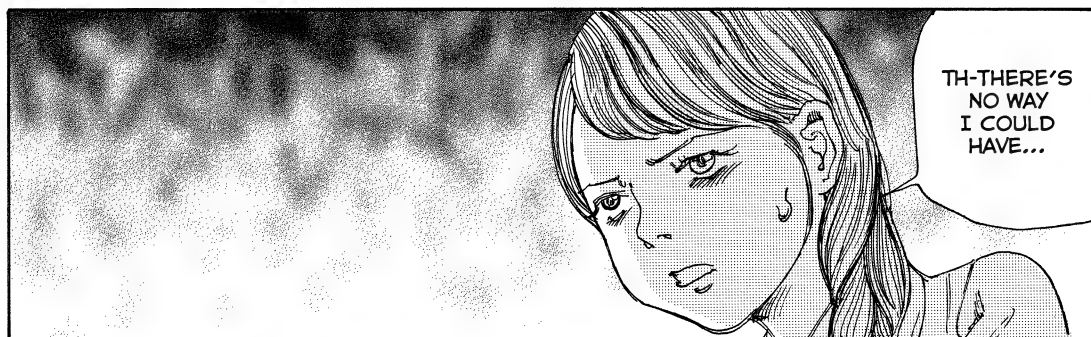
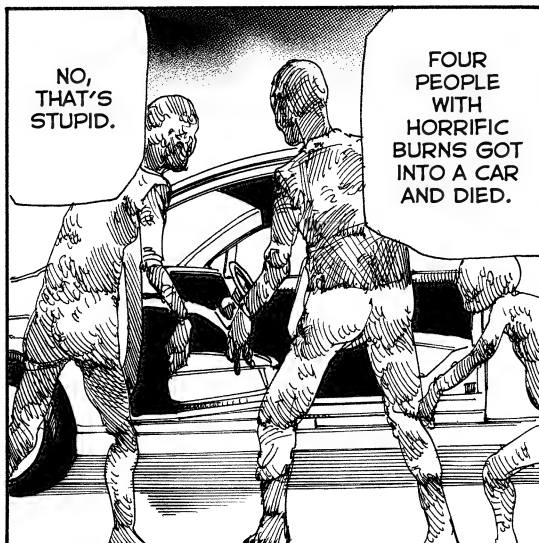


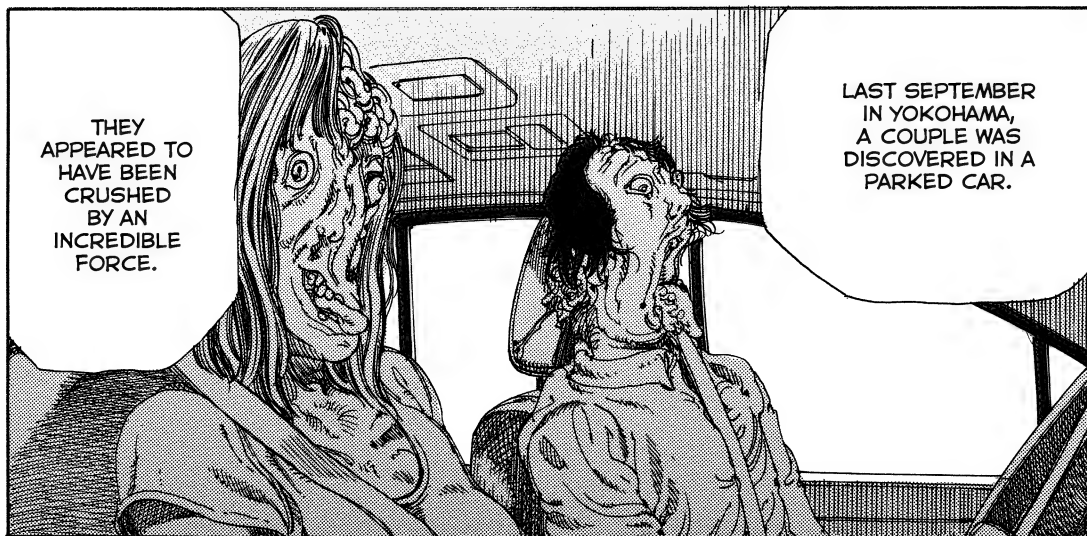
NO BURN MARKS ANYWHERE IN THE CAR.

BUT ASIDE FROM THE FOUR CHARRED BODIES, THERE WAS NO TRACE OF FIRE.



NOW, WHEN SOMEONE BURNS TO DEATH IN A CAR, THE USUAL SUSPECT IS A LIT CIGARETTE OR SOMETHING SIMILAR.





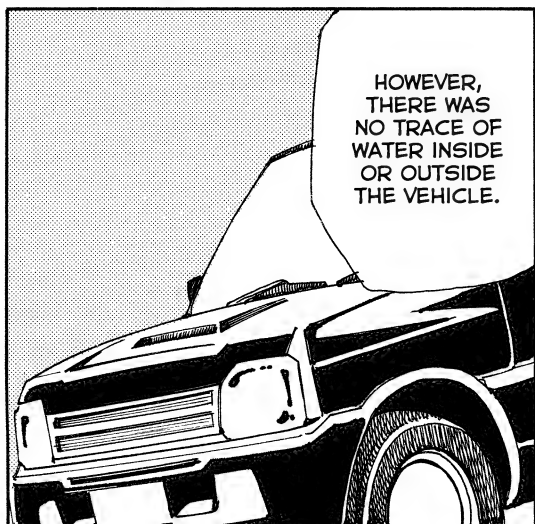
THEY
APPEARED TO
HAVE BEEN
CRUSHED
BY AN
INCREDIBLE
FORCE.

LAST SEPTEMBER
IN YOKOHAMA,
A COUPLE WAS
DISCOVERED IN A
PARKED CAR.



THEIR
BODIES WERE
PULVERIZED.
THEIR
INTERNAL
ORGANS
RUPTURED.

IN NOVEMBER OF
THE SAME YEAR,
THE BODIES OF
TWO PARENTS AND
THEIR CHILD WERE
DISCOVERED IN A
PARKED CAR ON A
RESIDENTIAL ROAD
IN ODAWARA.

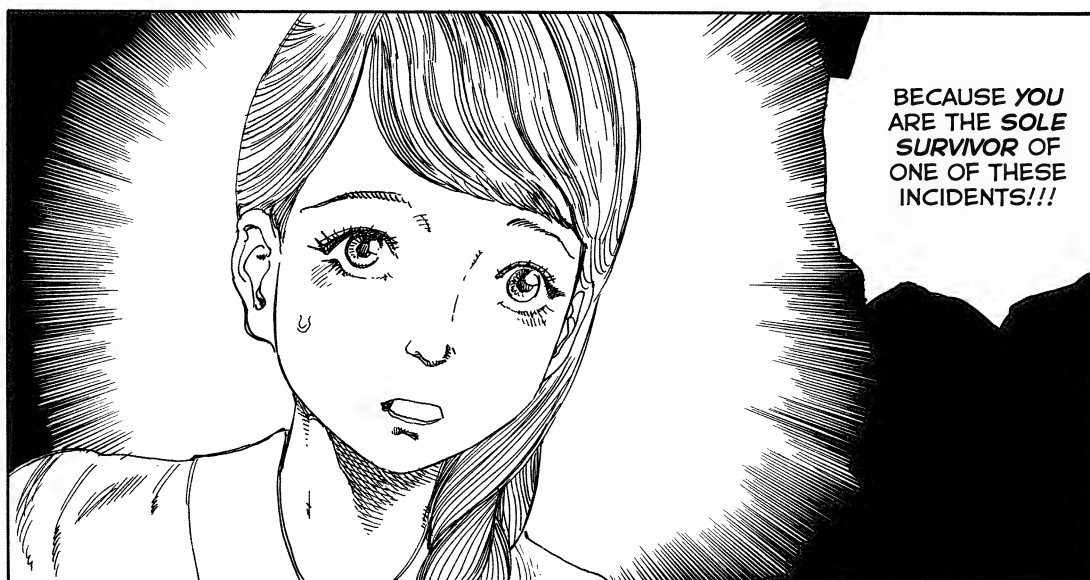
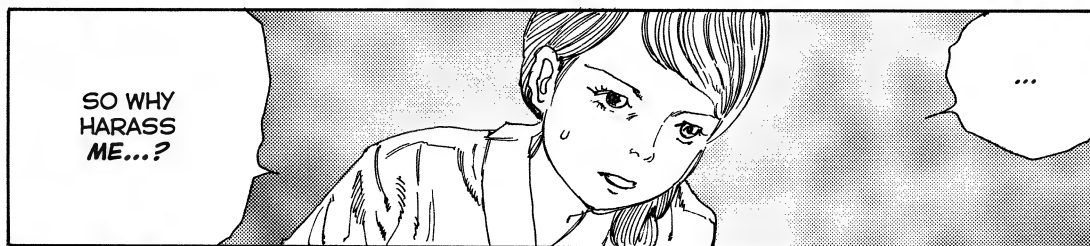
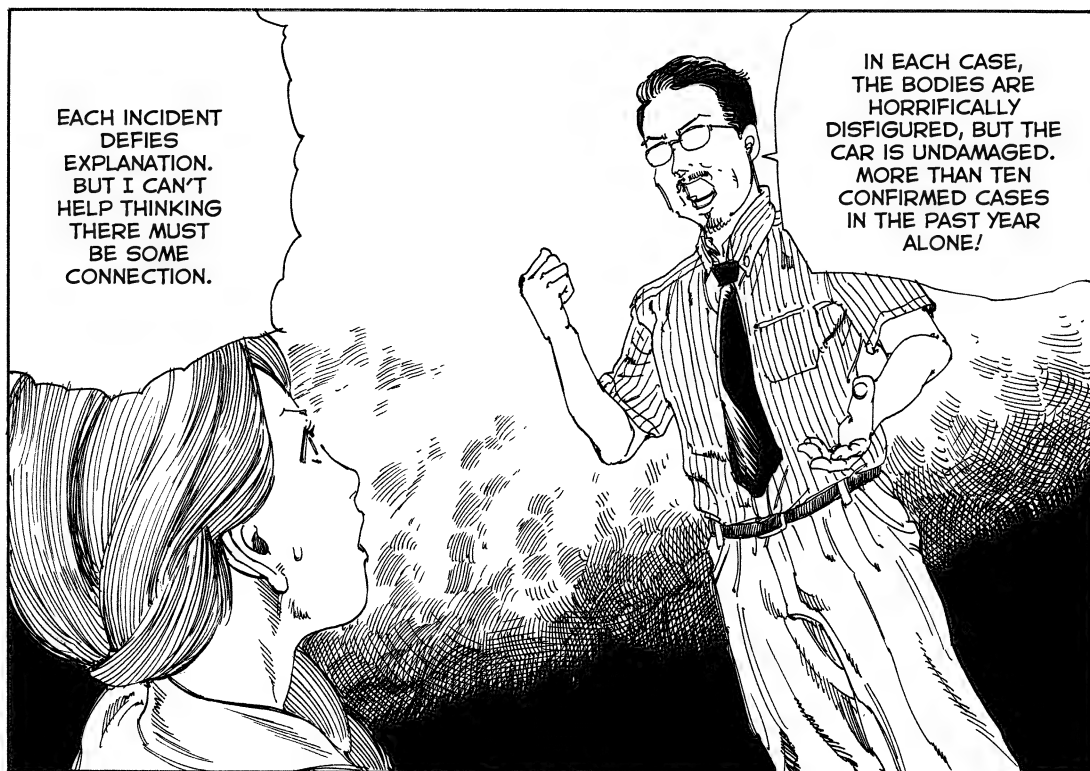


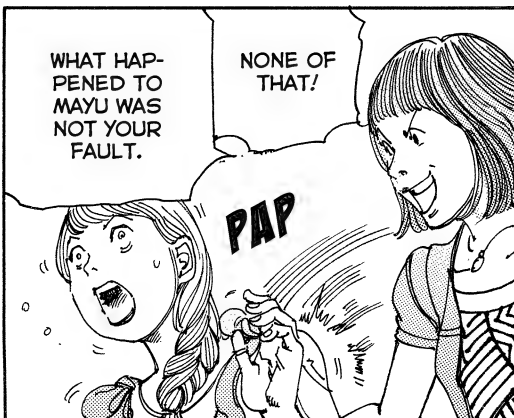
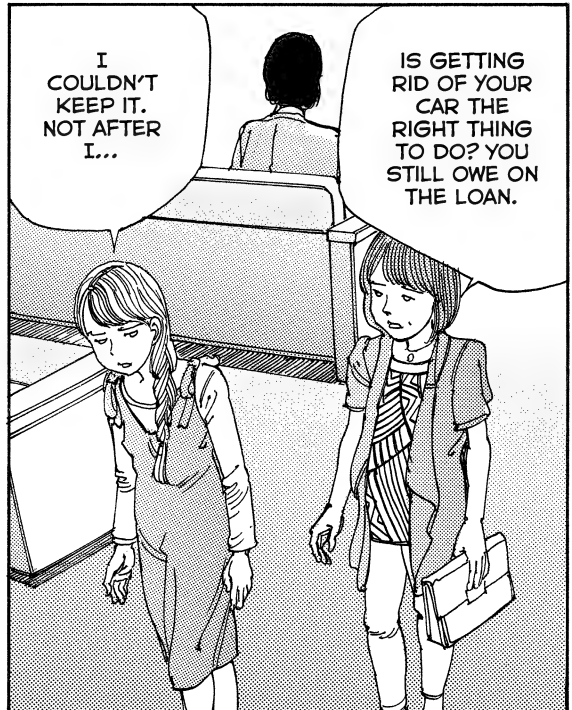
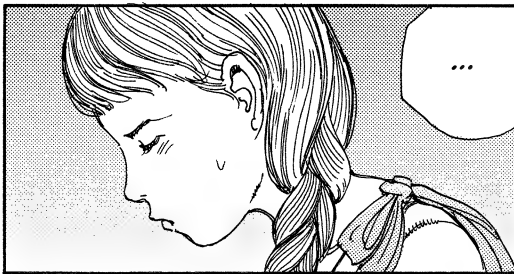
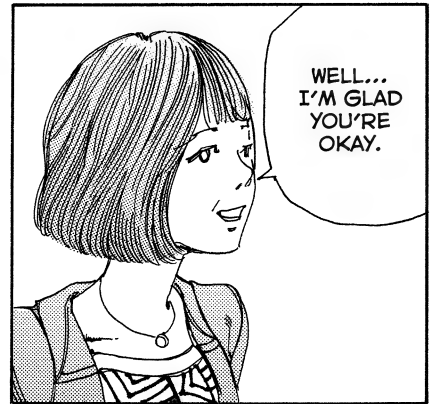
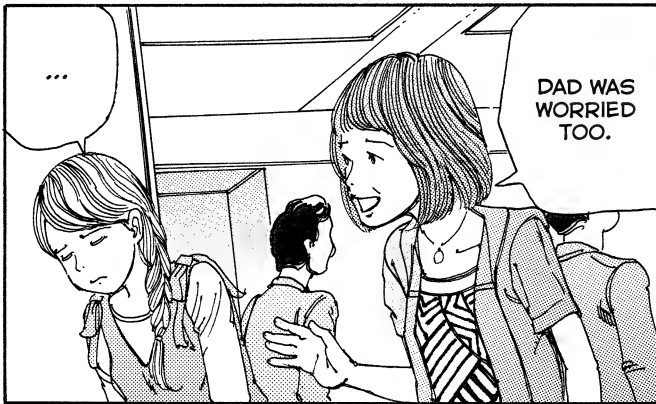
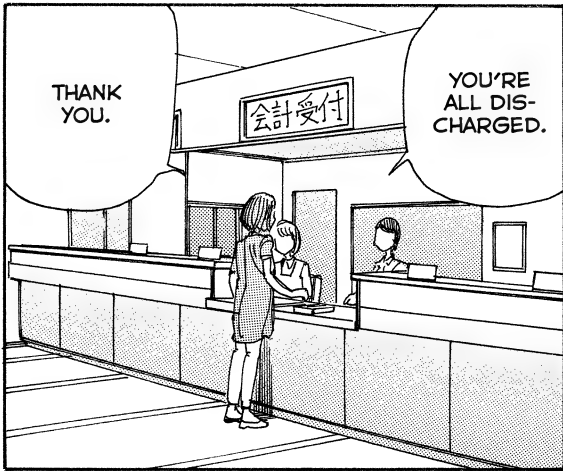
HOWEVER,
THERE WAS
NO TRACE OF
WATER INSIDE
OR OUTSIDE
THE VEHICLE.



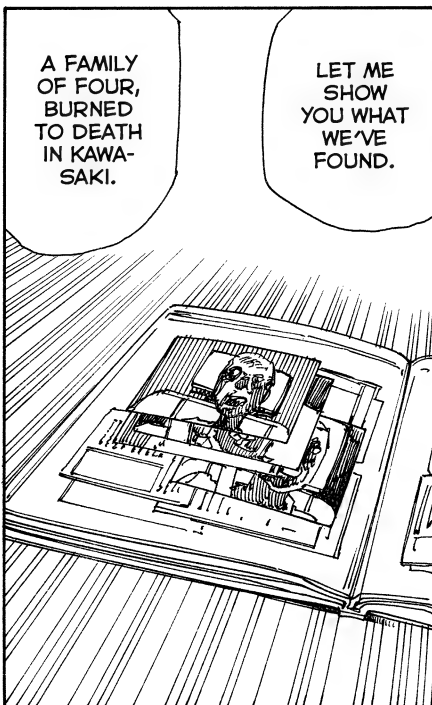
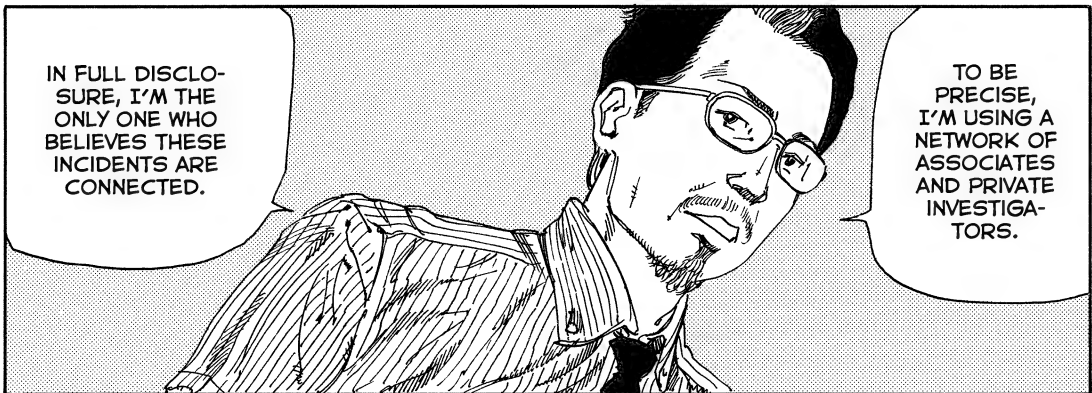
CAUSE OF
DEATH,
DROWNING.
THEIR LUNGS
WERE FILLED
WITH SEA-
WATER.

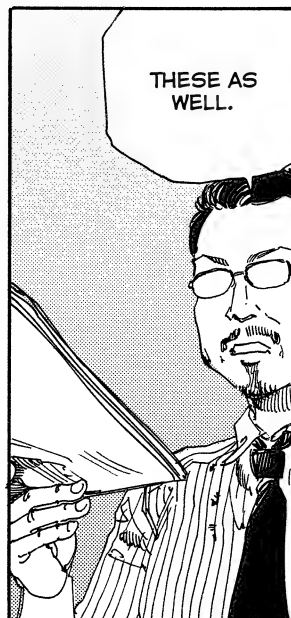
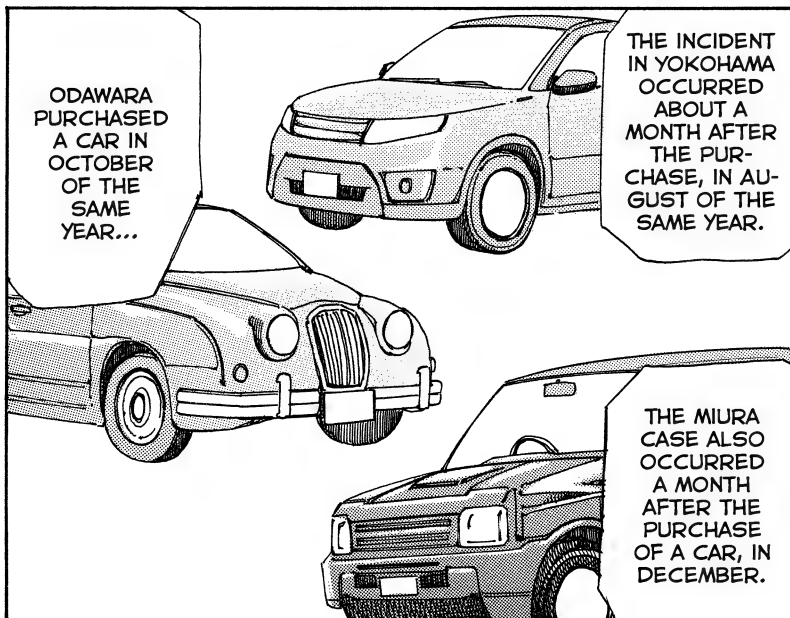
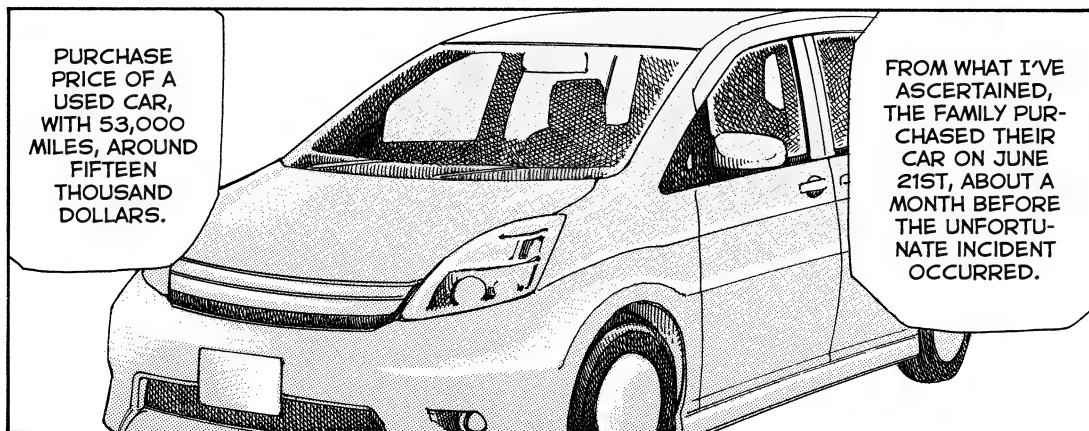
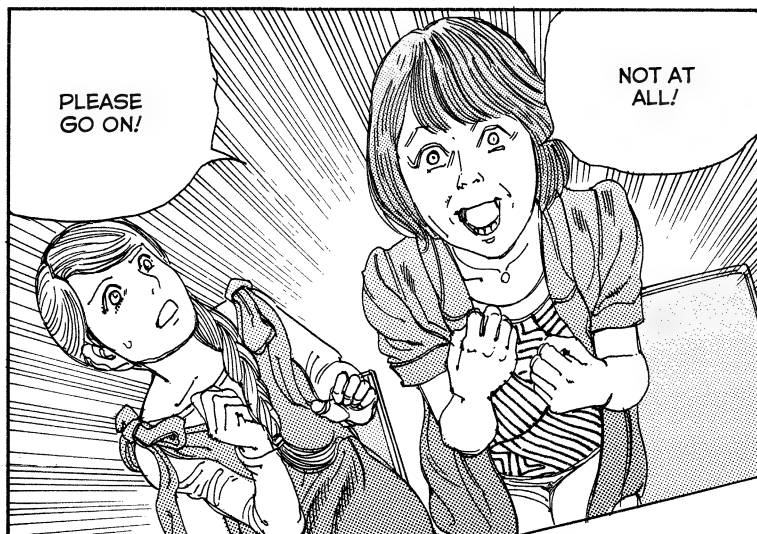
THIS JANUARY,
THE BODIES OF
AN ELDERLY
COUPLE WERE
FOUND, ALSO
IN A PARKED
CAR, NEAR A
FISHING PORT
IN MIURA.

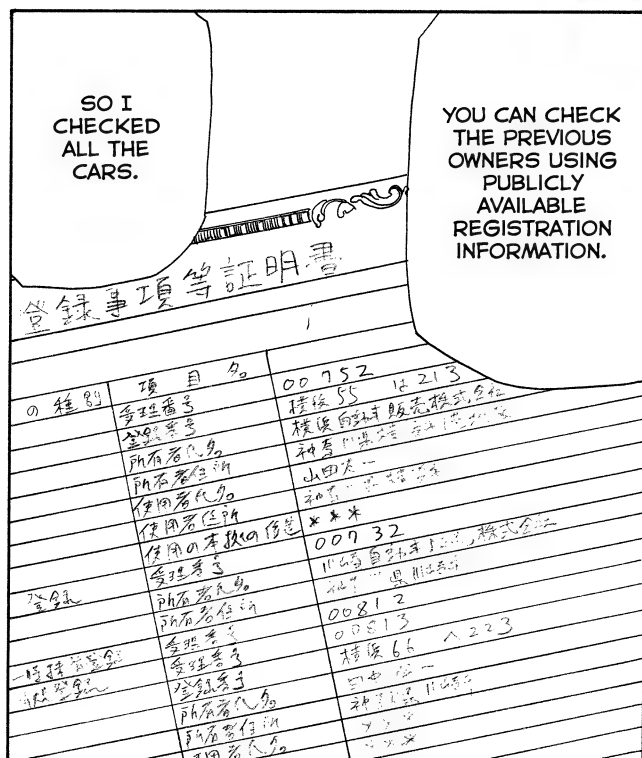
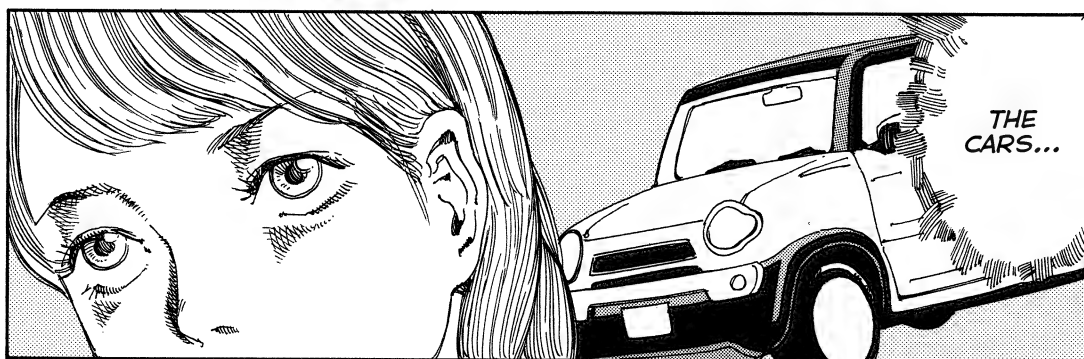
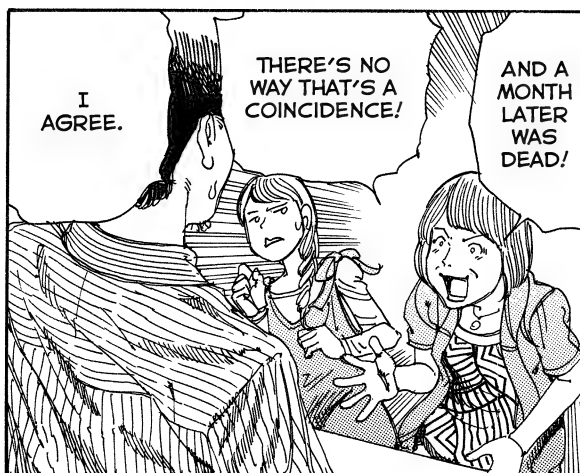
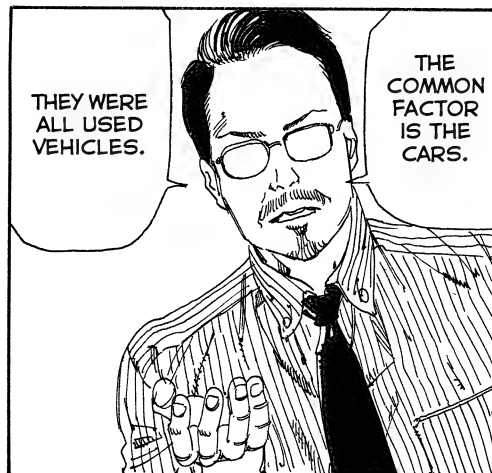


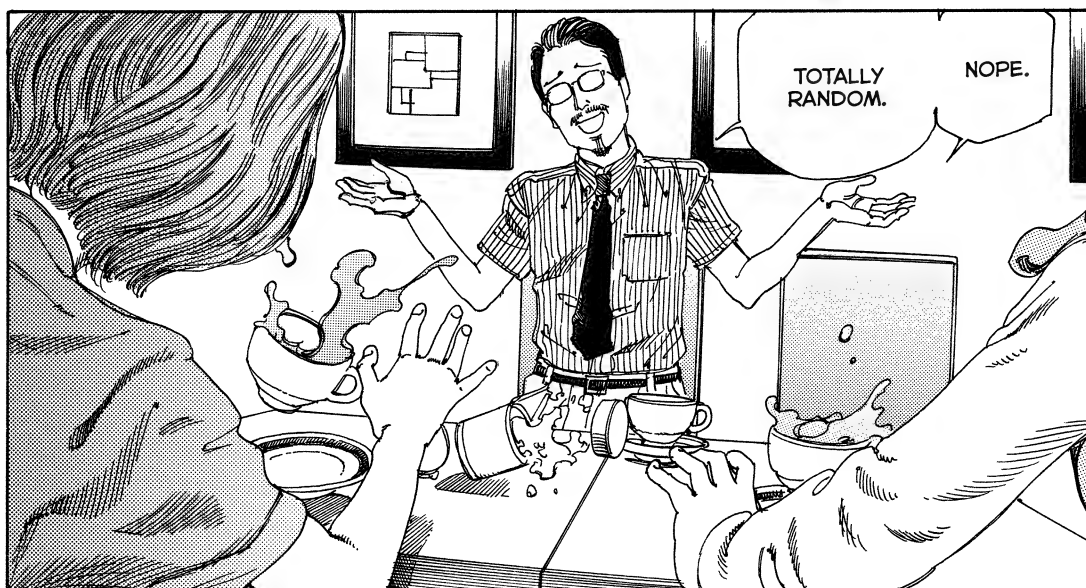
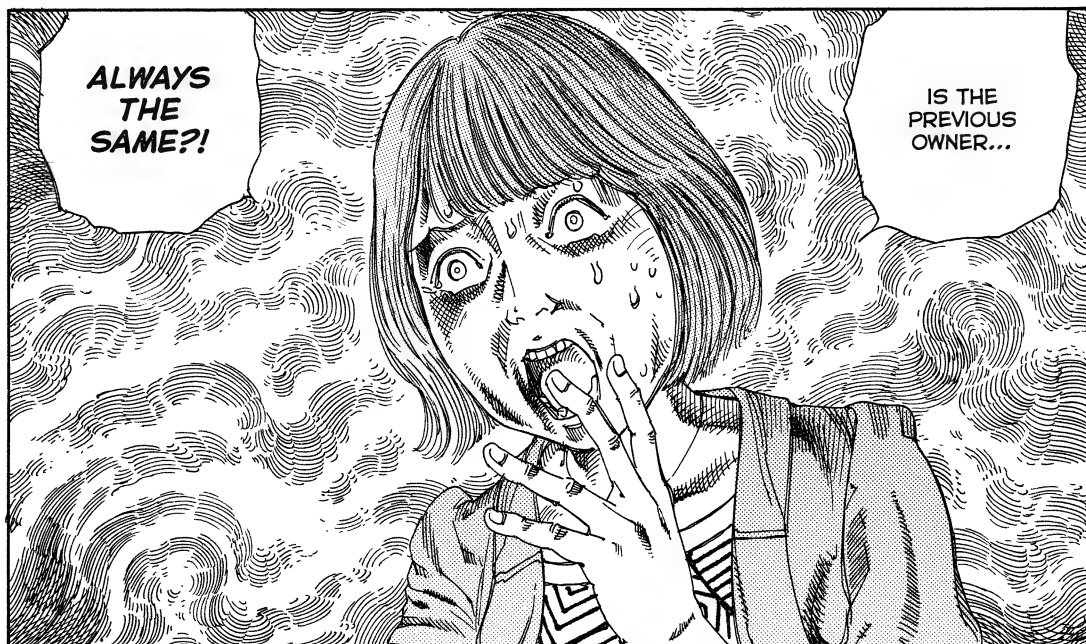
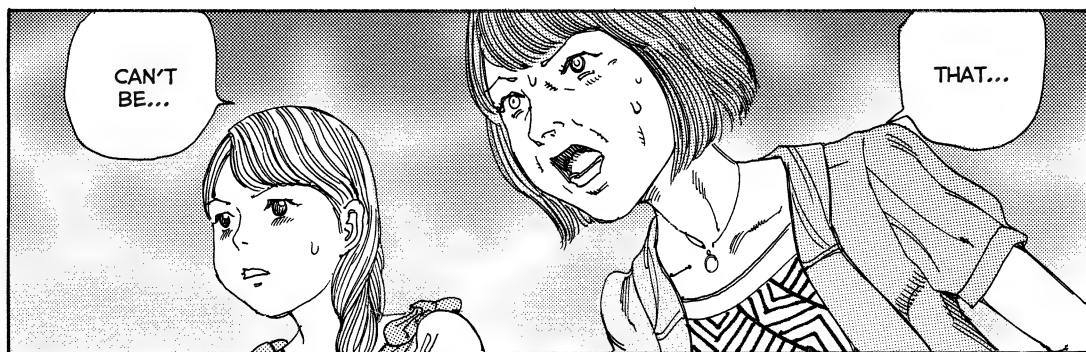


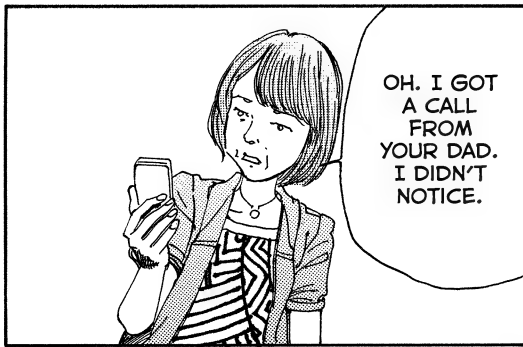




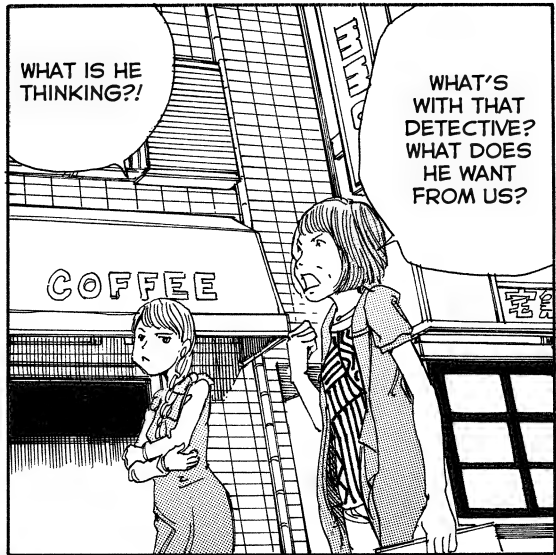
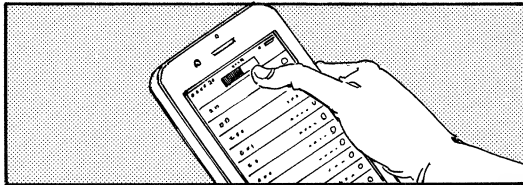






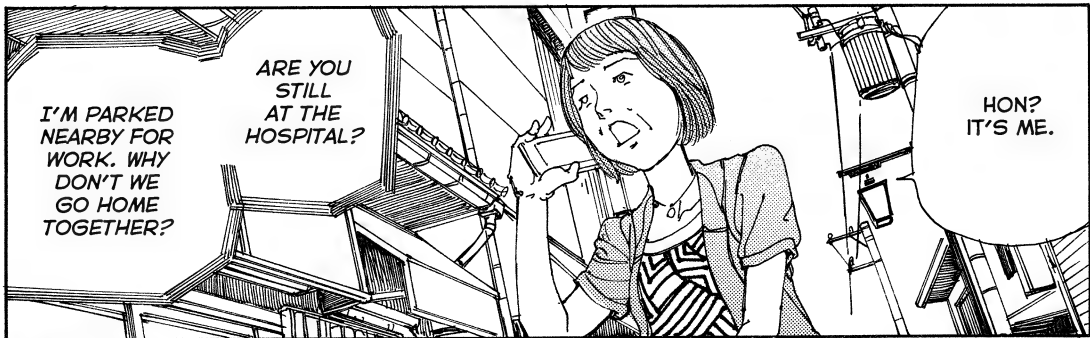


OH. I GOT
A CALL
FROM
YOUR DAD.
I DIDN'T
NOTICE.



WHAT IS HE
THINKING?!

WHAT'S
WITH THAT
DETECTIVE?
WHAT DOES
HE WANT
FROM US?



I'M PARKED
NEARBY FOR
WORK. WHY
DON'T WE
GO HOME
TOGETHER?

ARE YOU
STILL
AT THE
HOSPITAL?

HON?
IT'S ME.

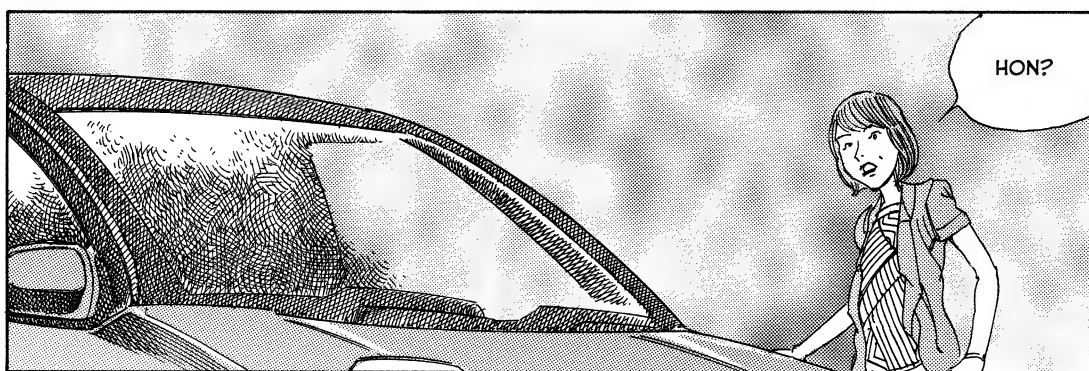
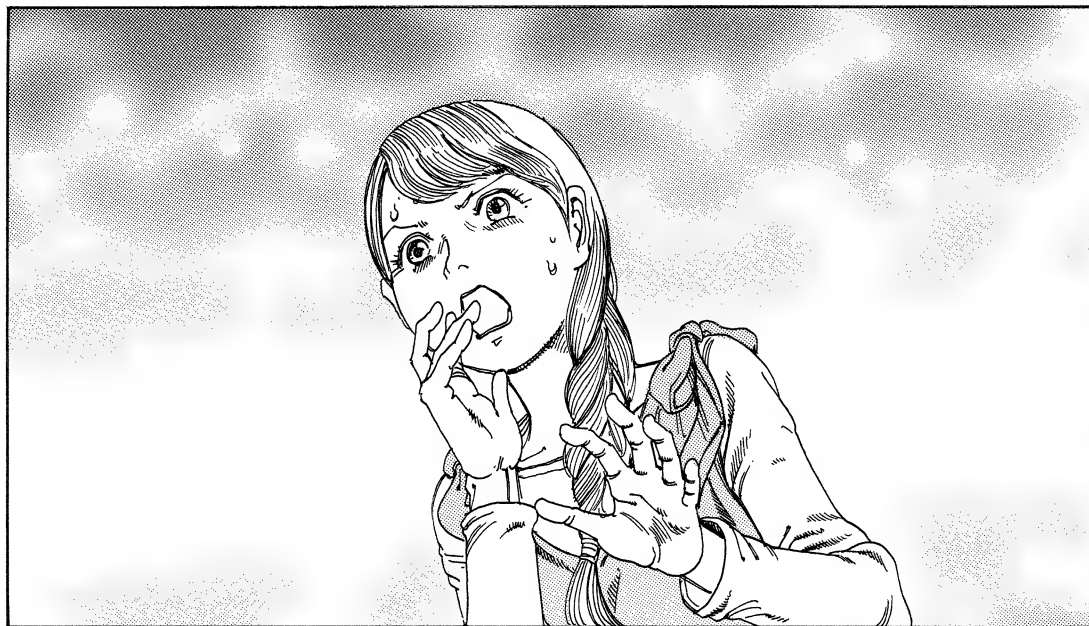


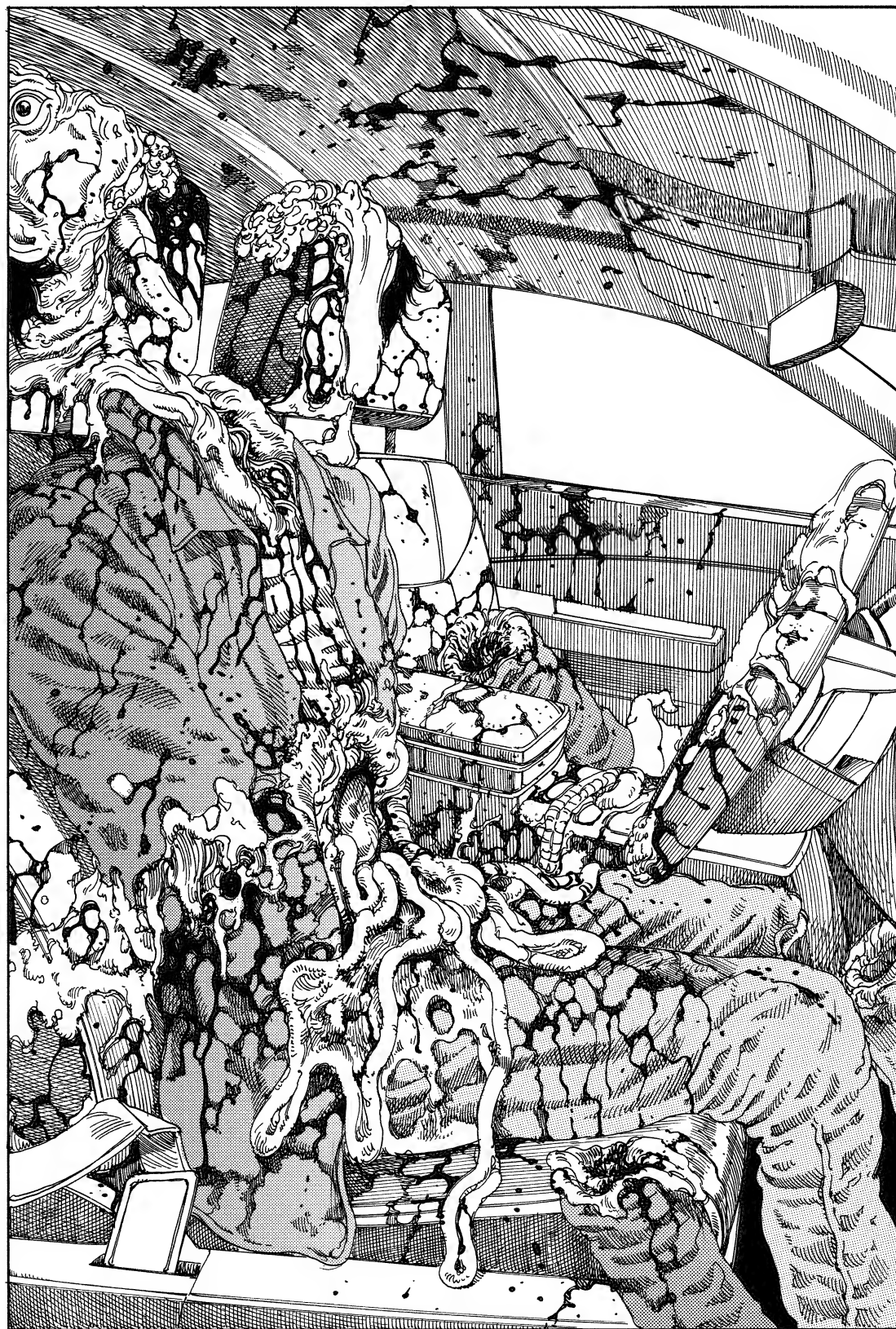
HEY!

OH!
THERE
HE IS!

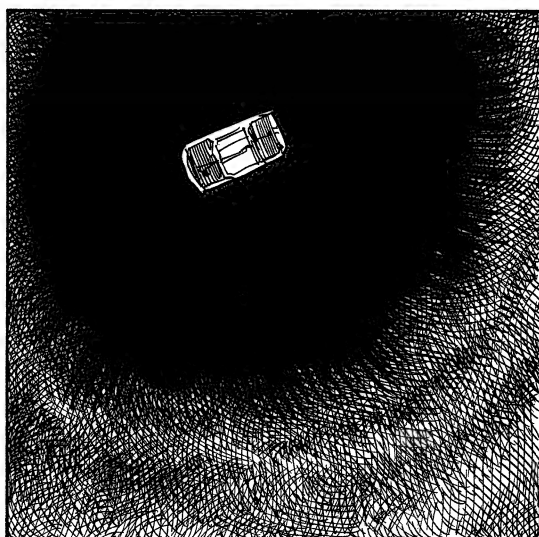
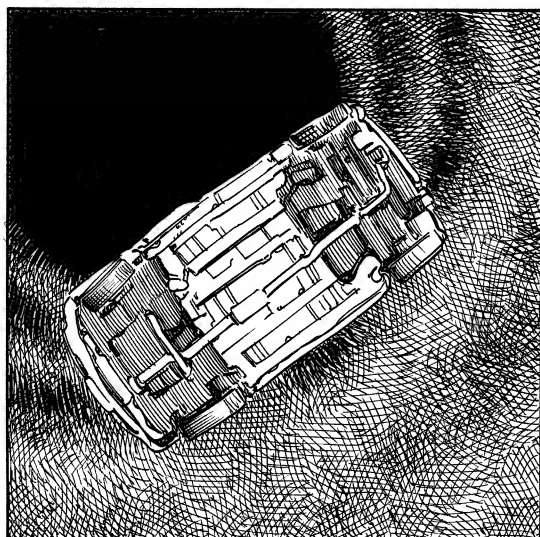
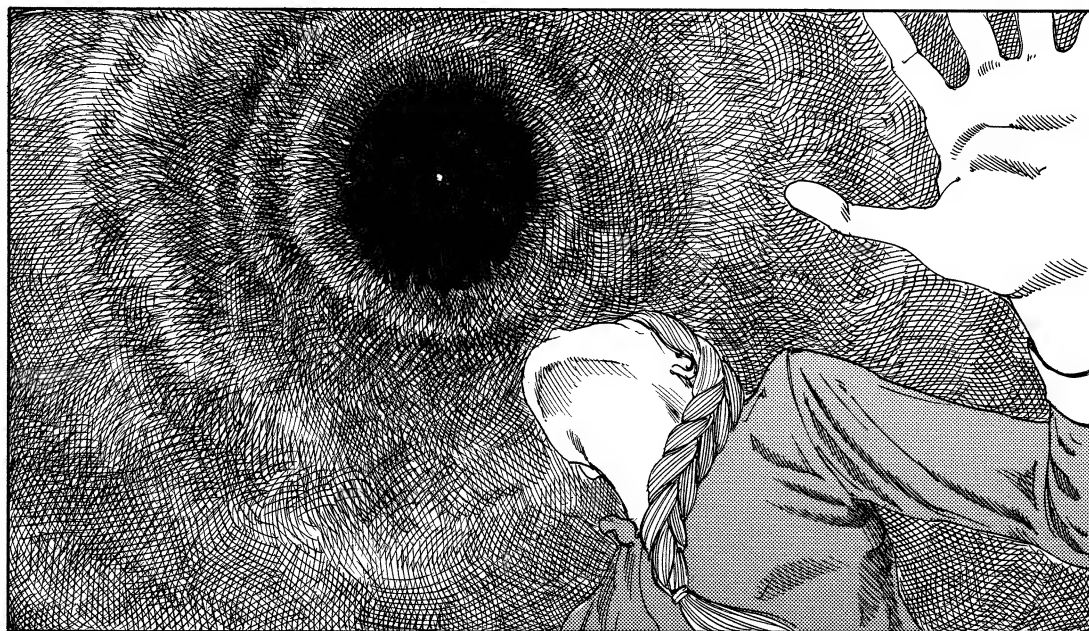
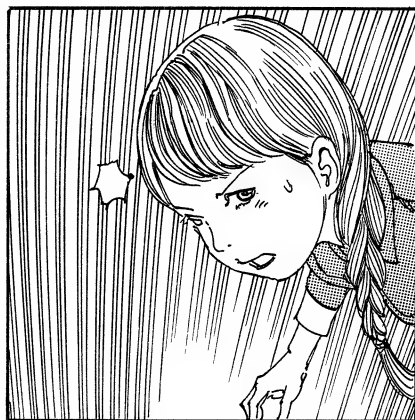
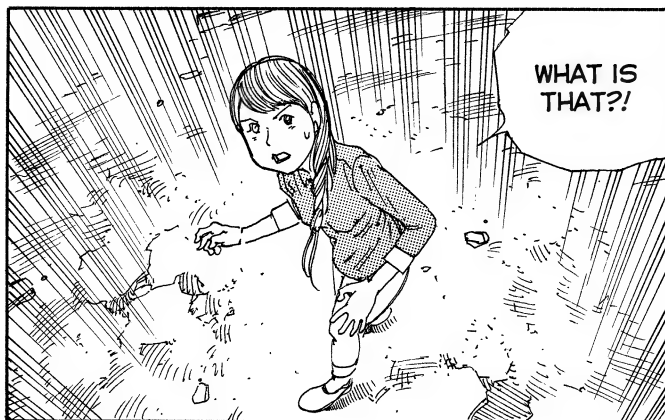


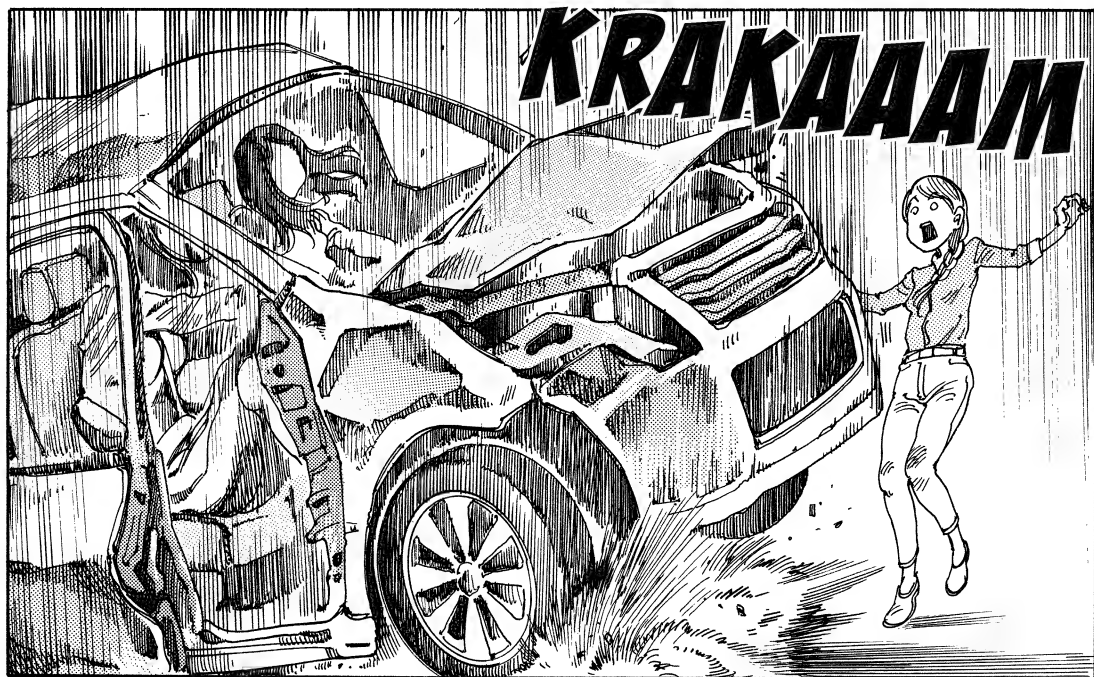
HISAKO?
WHAT IS IT?

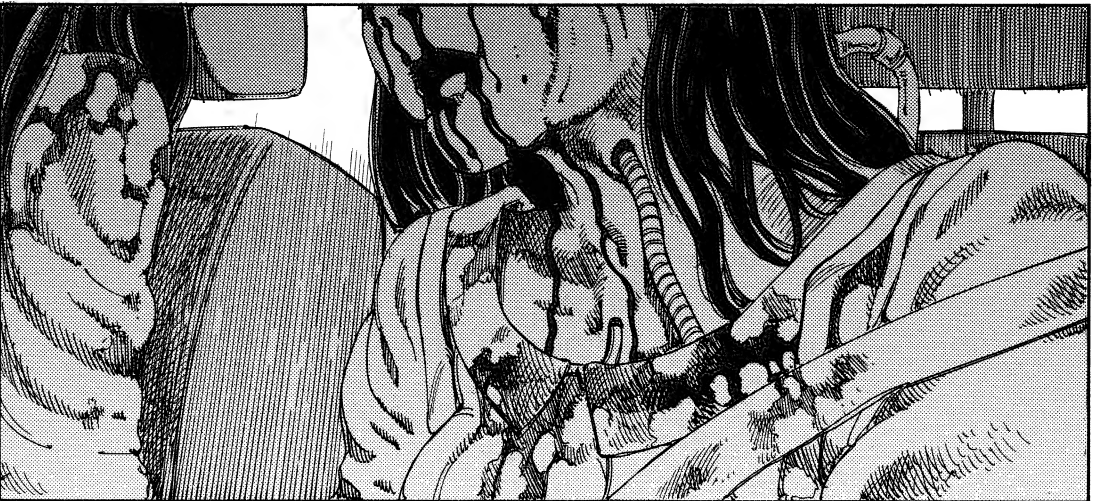
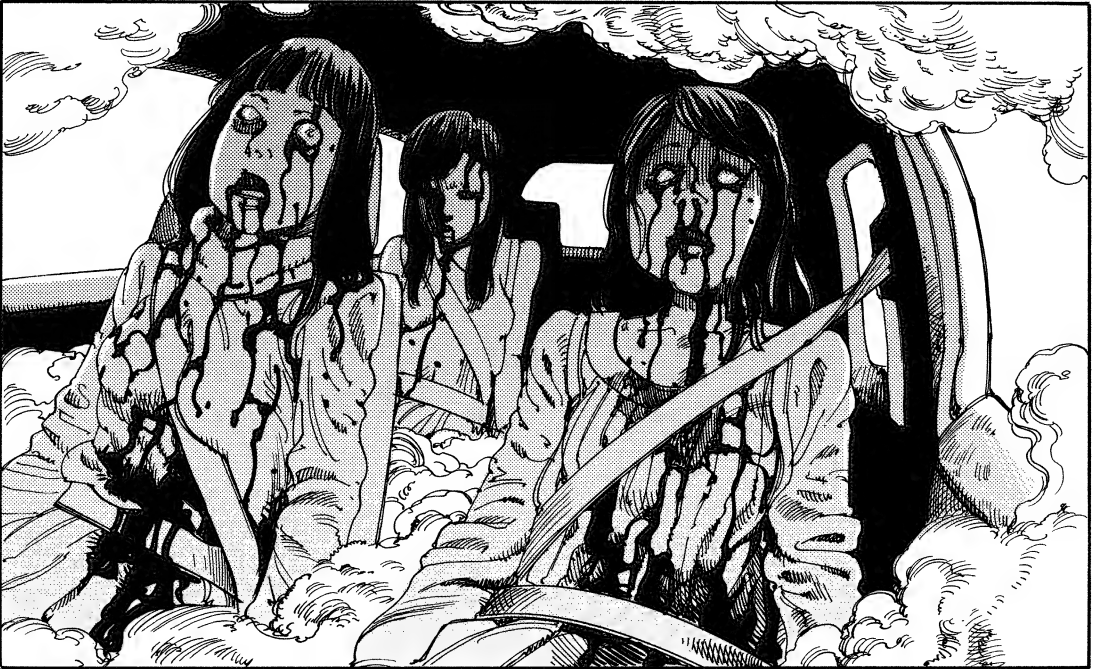
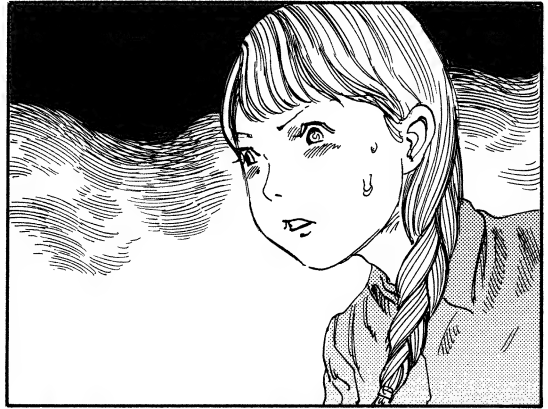
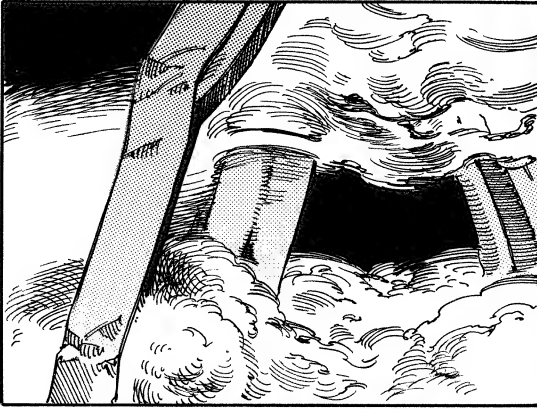


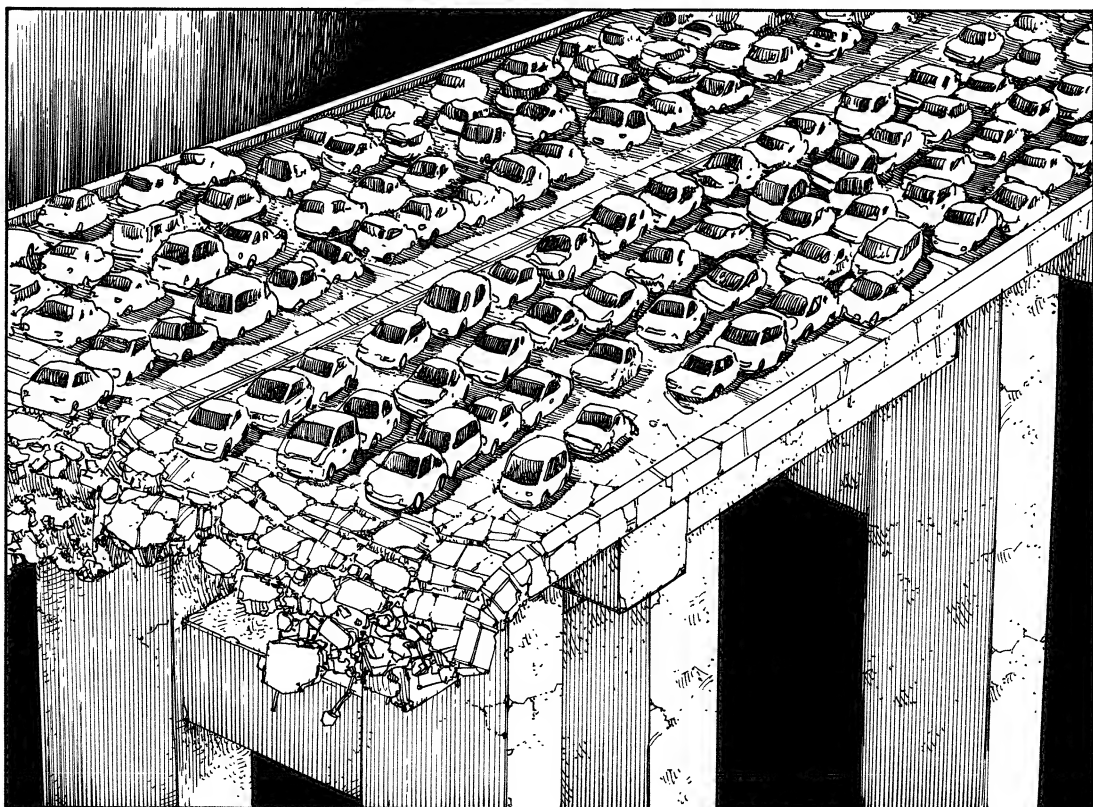
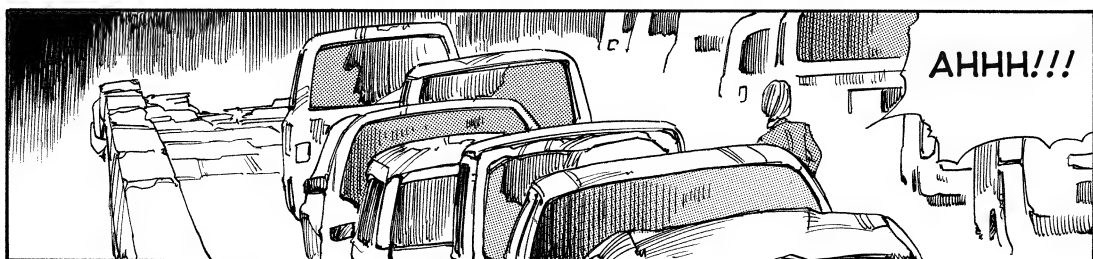
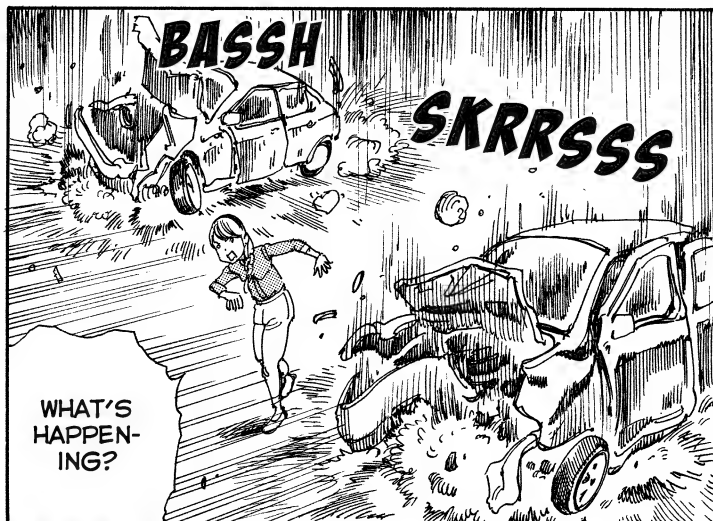


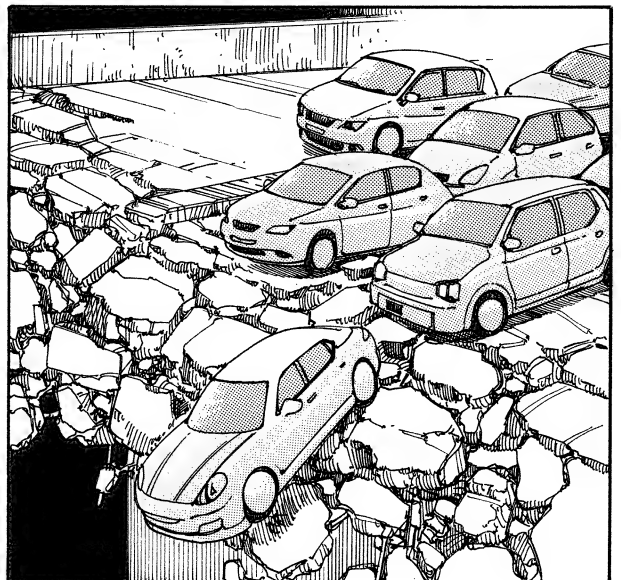
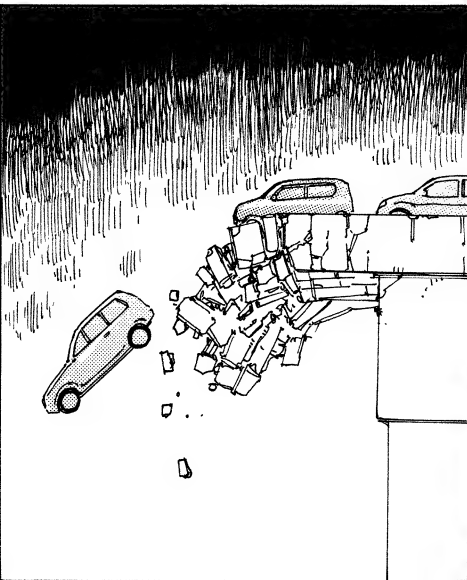
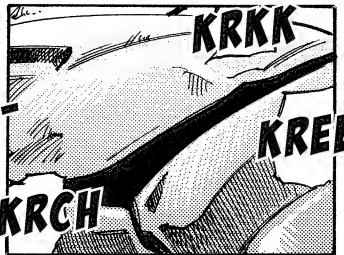
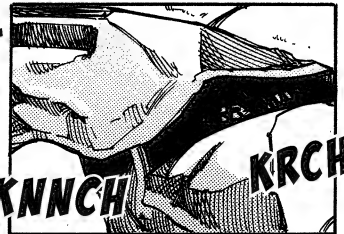
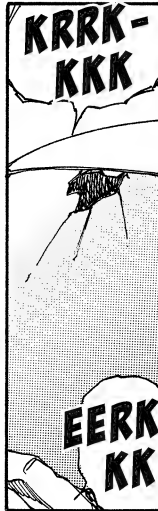


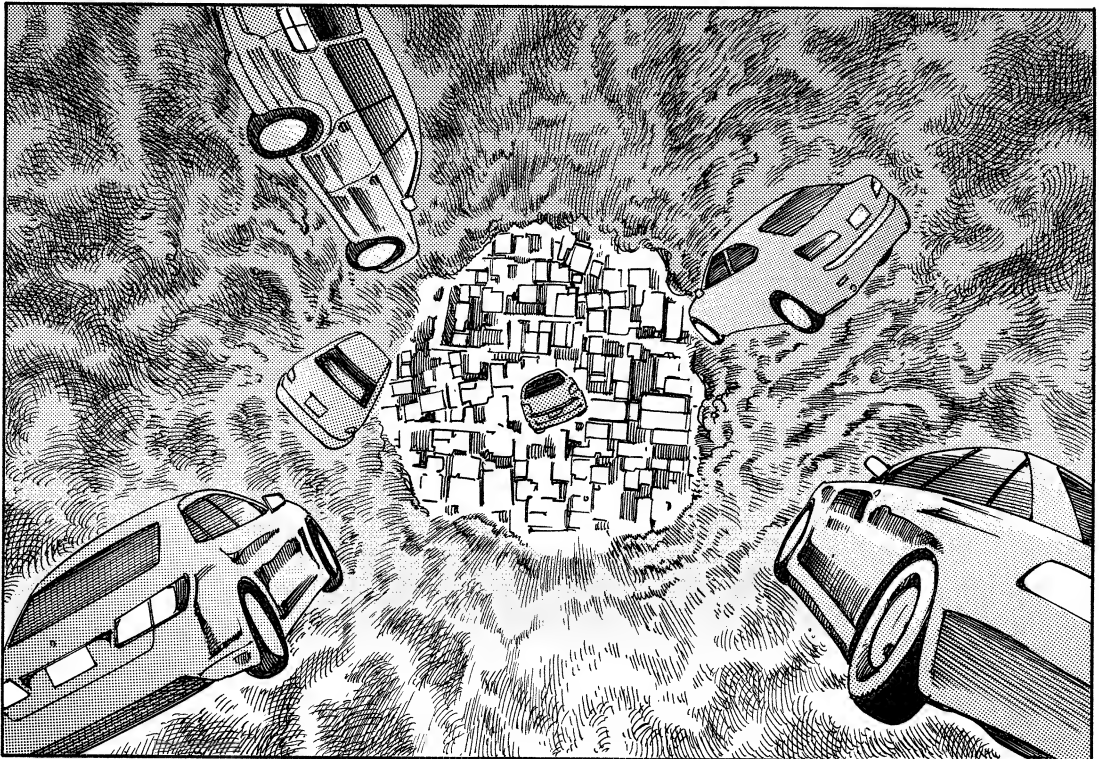
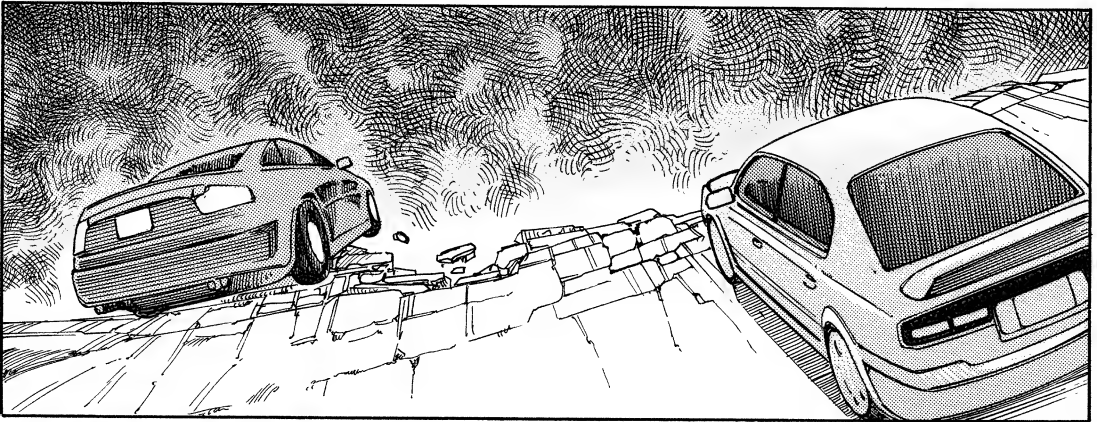
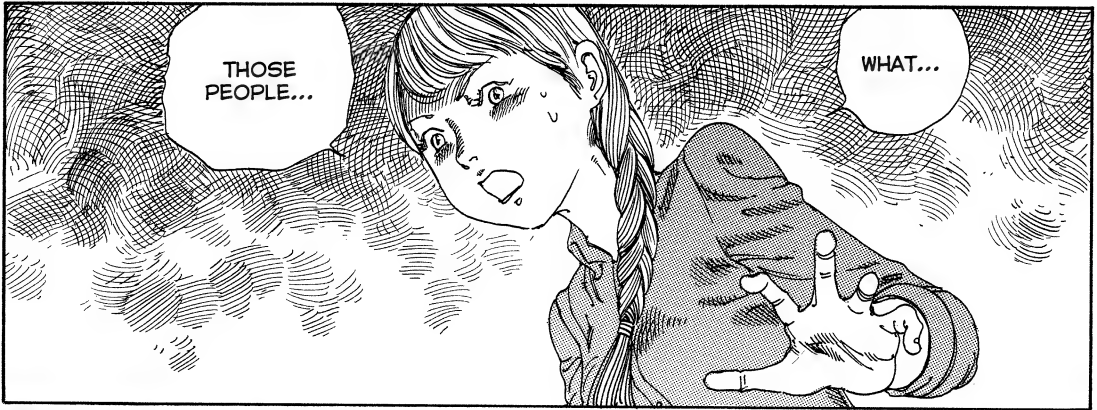


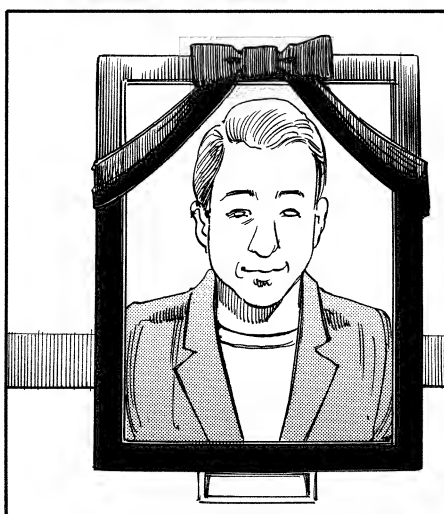
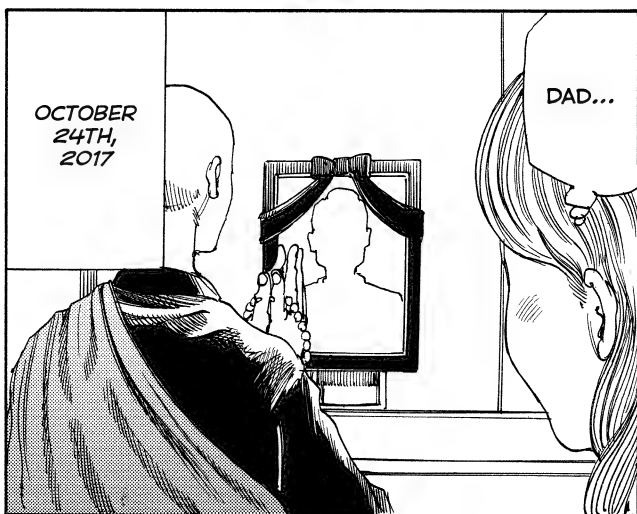
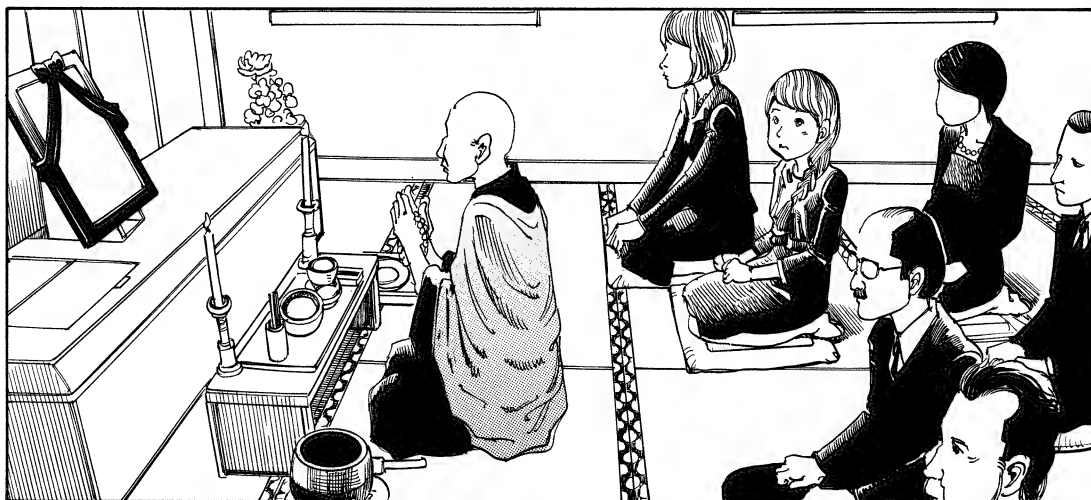
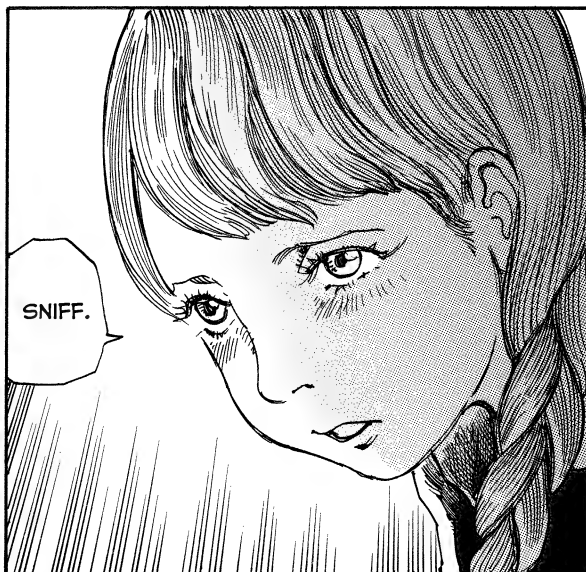
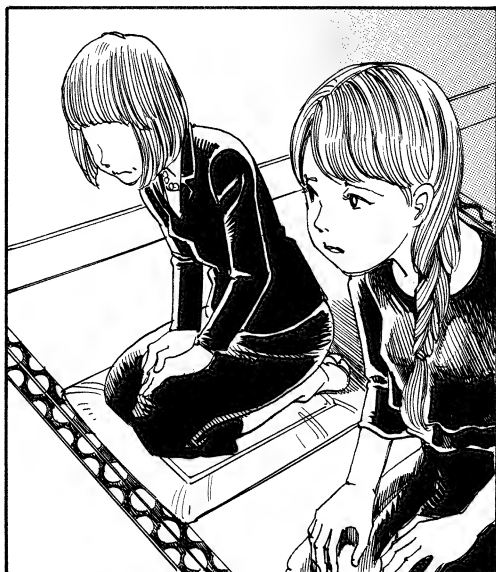


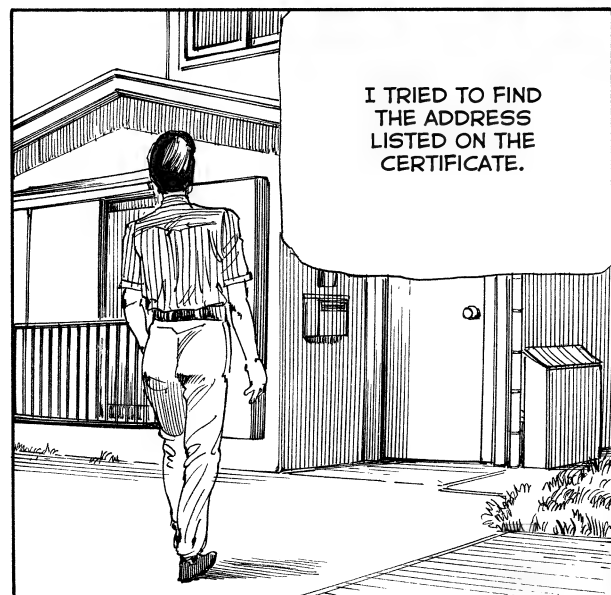
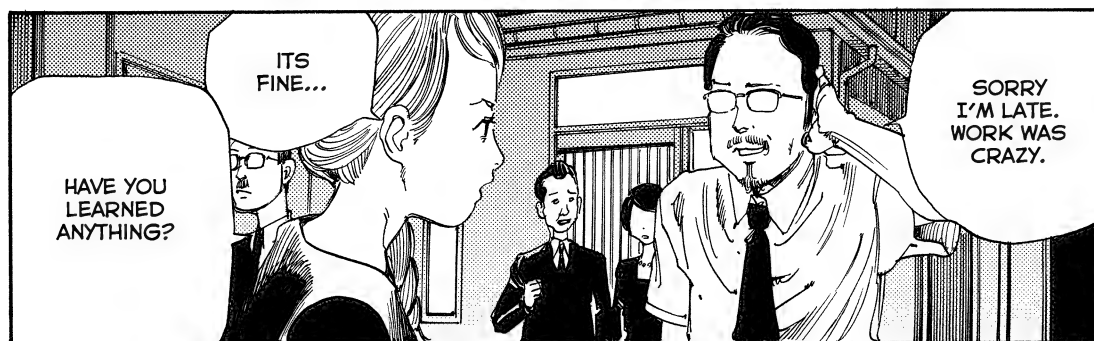
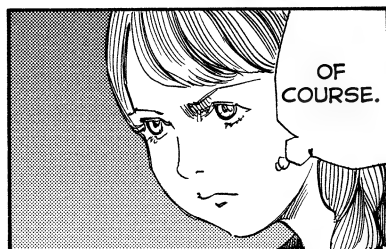
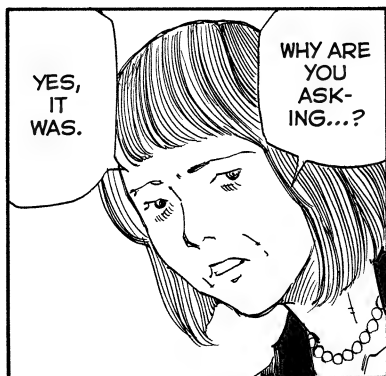


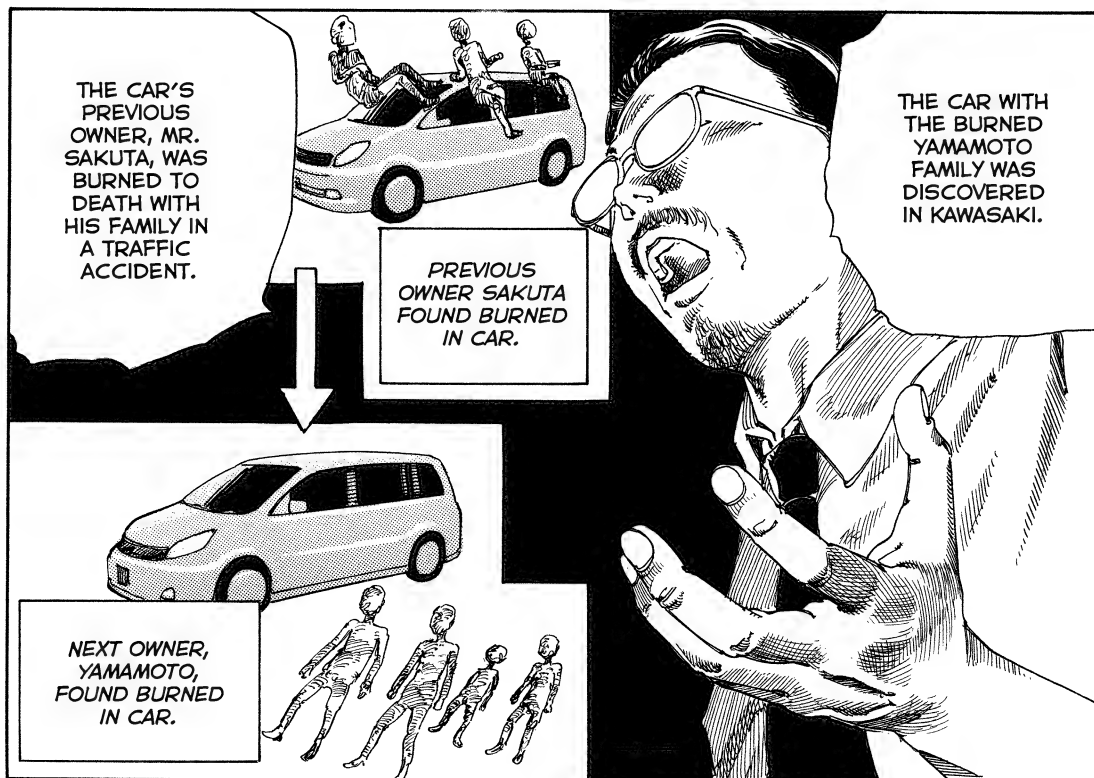
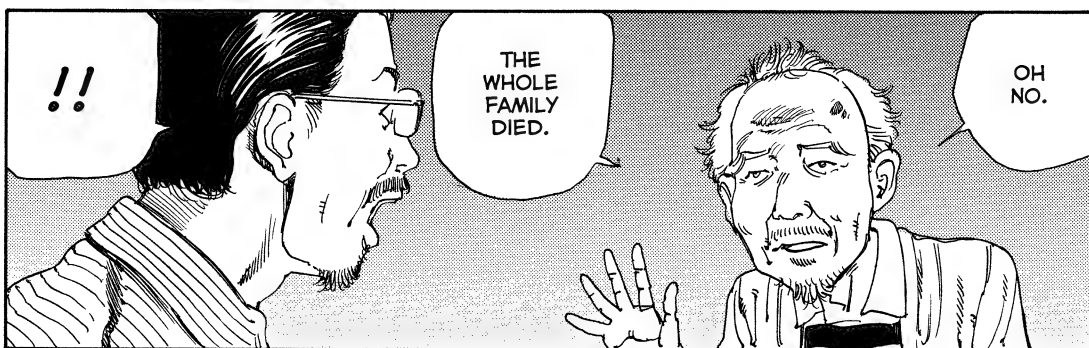
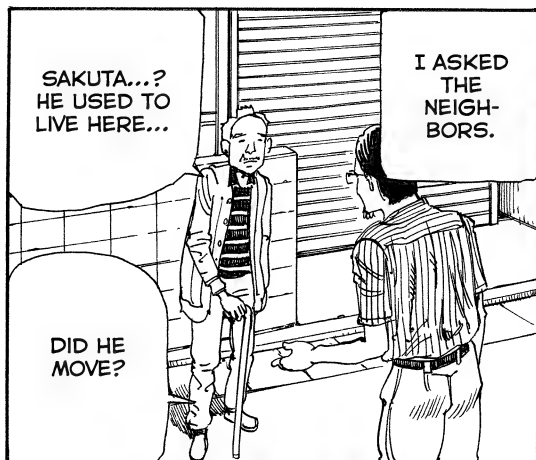


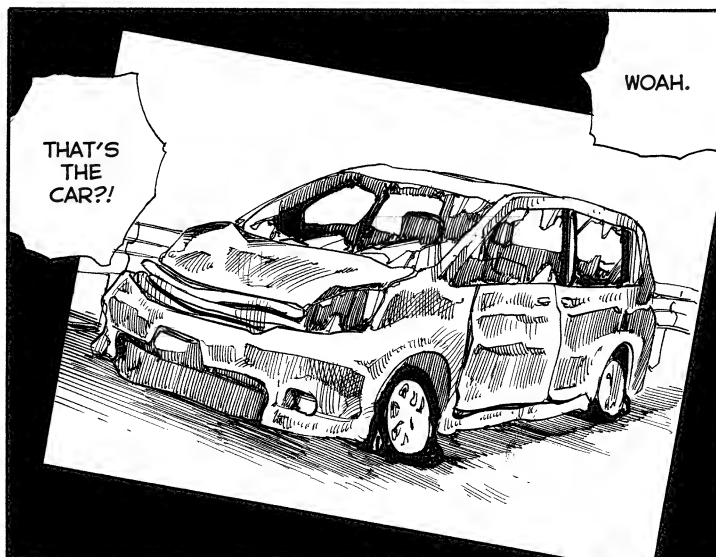






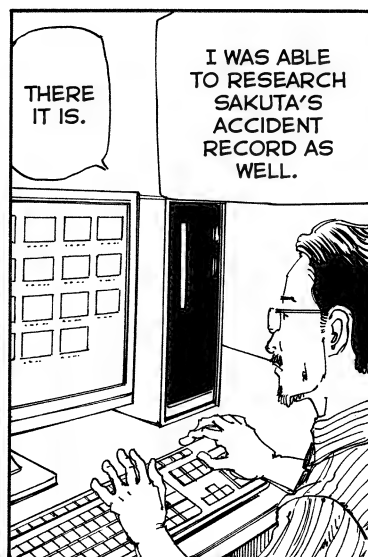






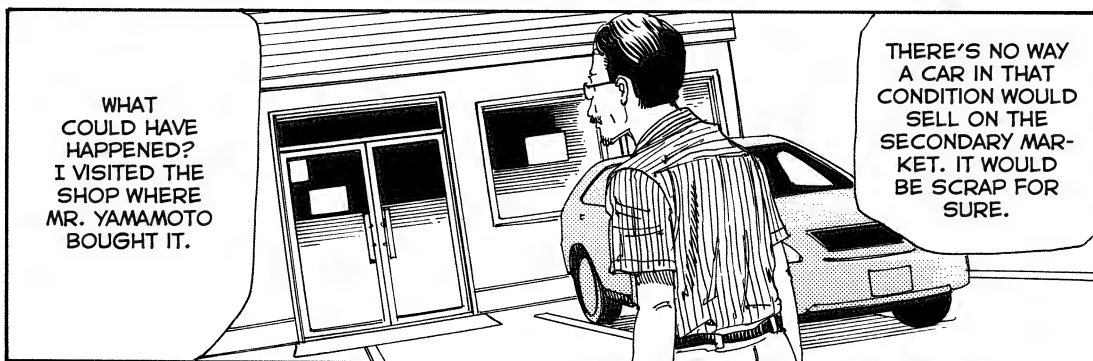
THAT'S
THE
CAR?!

WOAH.



THERE
IT IS.

I WAS ABLE
TO RESEARCH
SAKUTA'S
ACCIDENT
RECORD AS
WELL.



WHAT
COULD HAVE
HAPPENED?
I VISITED THE
SHOP WHERE
MR. YAMAMOTO
BOUGHT IT.

THERE'S NO WAY
A CAR IN THAT
CONDITION WOULD
SELL ON THE
SECONDARY MAR-
KET. IT WOULD
BE SCRAP FOR
SURE.



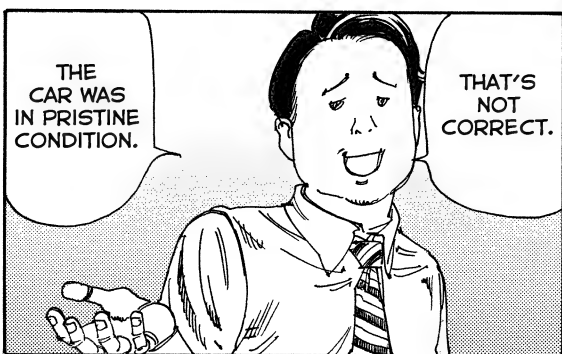
HUH?

THE THING I
FIND PECU-
LIAR IS THAT
YOU BOUGHT A
CAR IN SUCH
A BURNED-OUT
STATE...



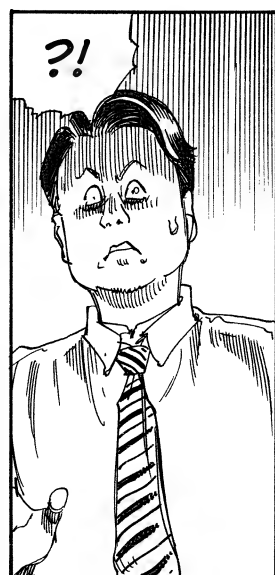
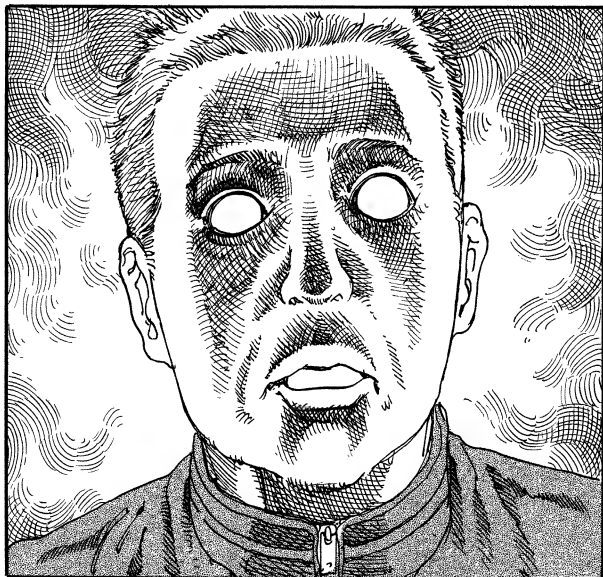
THE
SELLER
WAS MR.
SAKUTA.

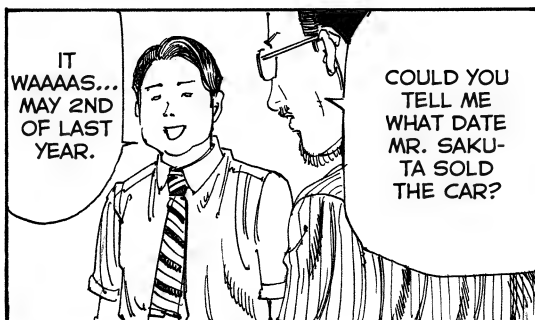
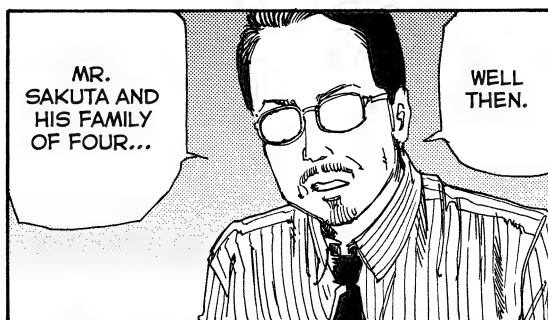
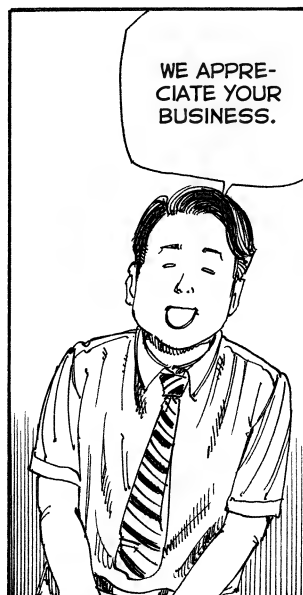
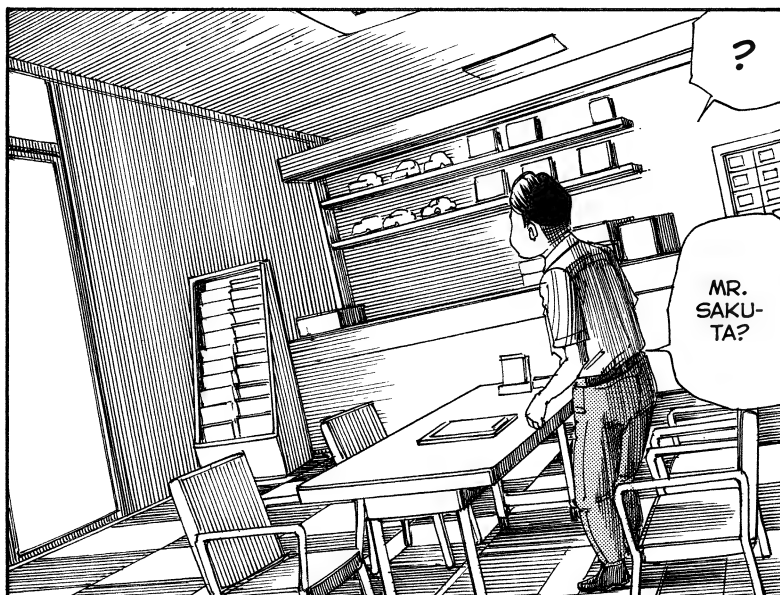
OOOHH
YEAH. I
REMEMBER.
WE BOUGHT
THAT CAR.

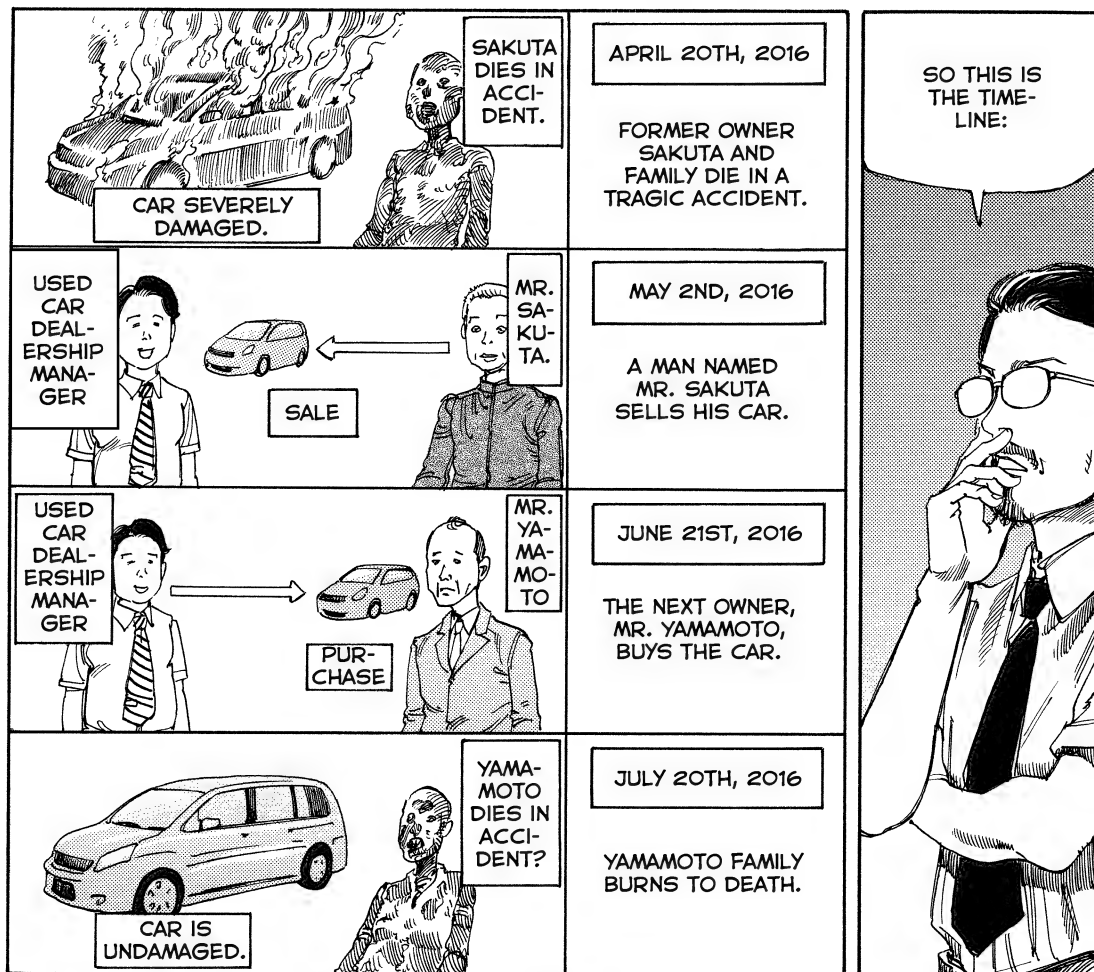


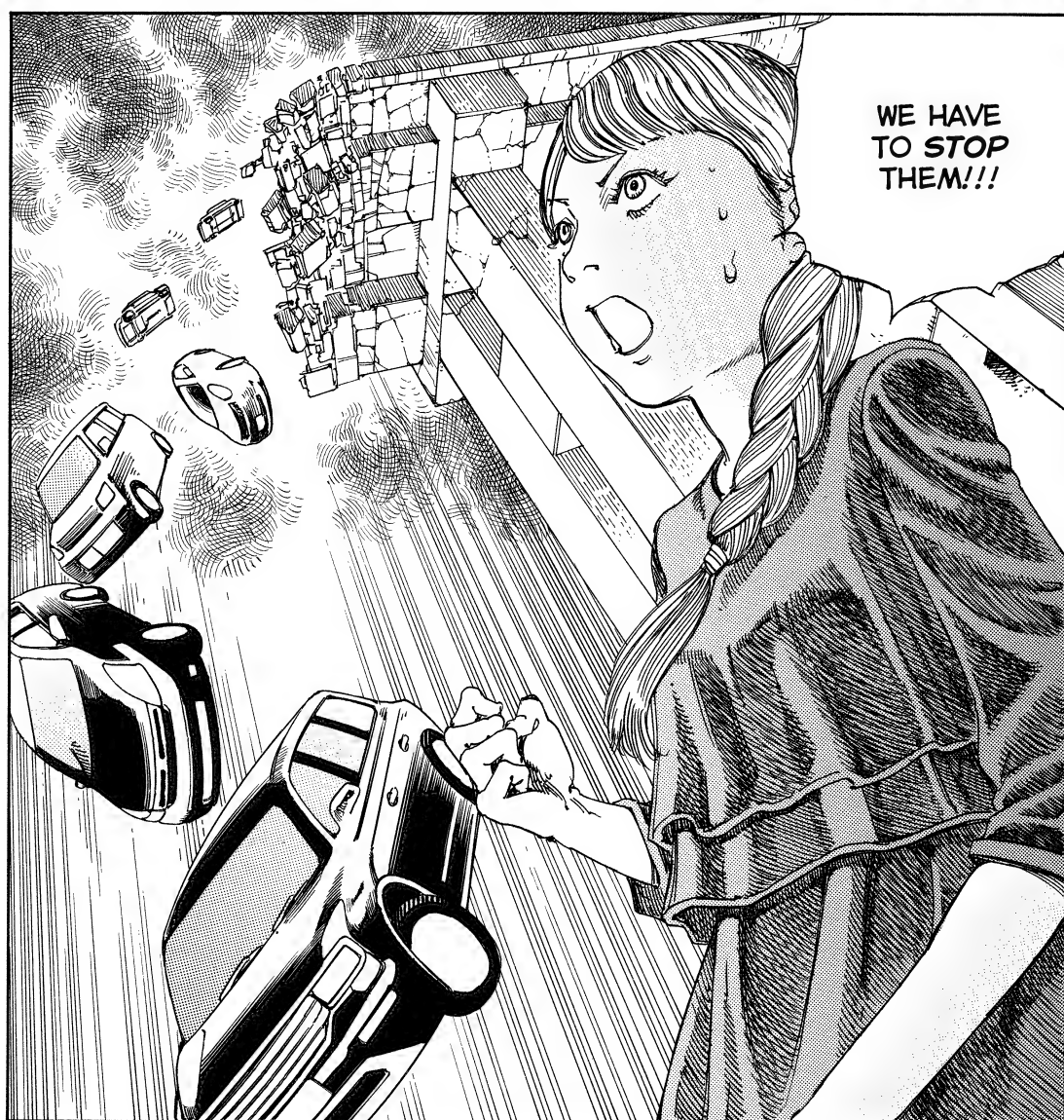
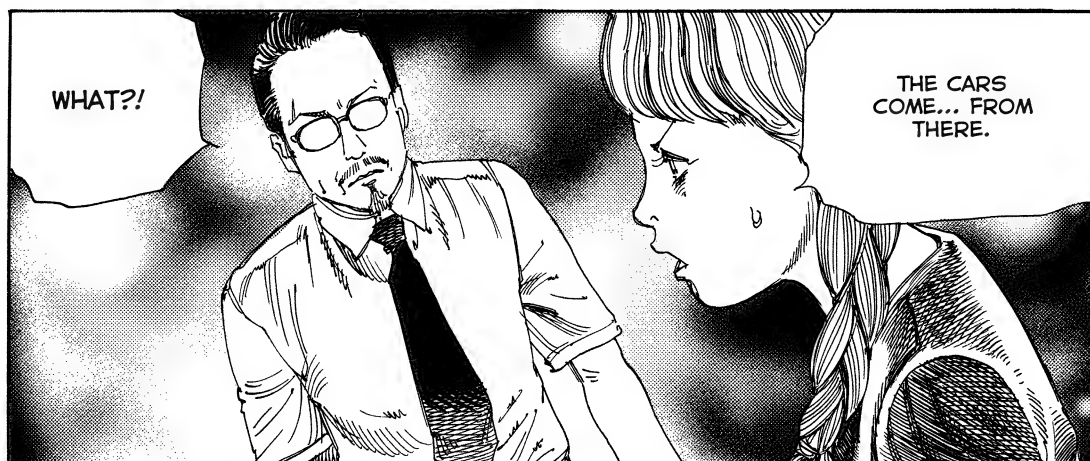
THE
CAR WAS
IN PRISTINE
CONDITION.

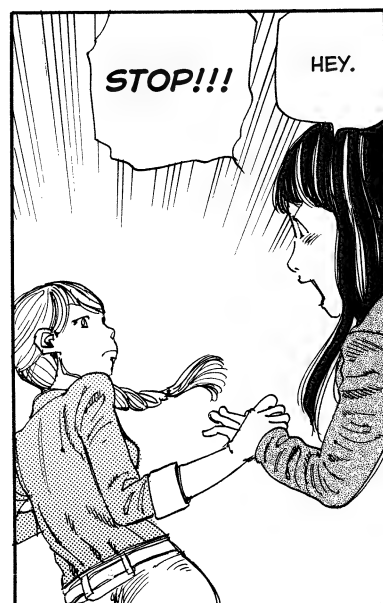
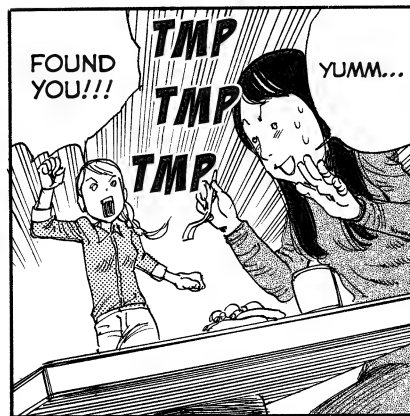
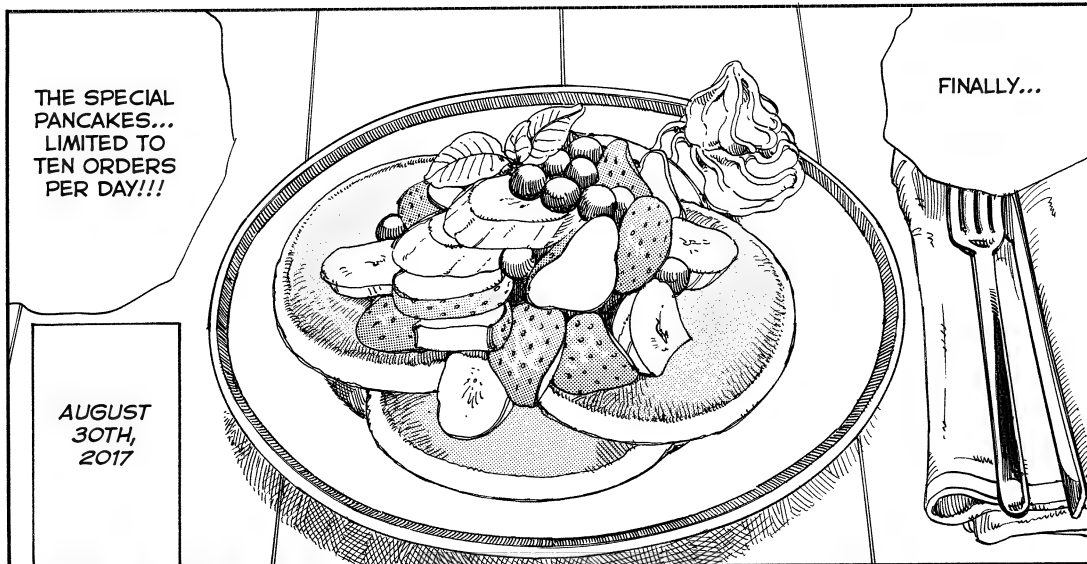
THAT'S
NOT
CORRECT.

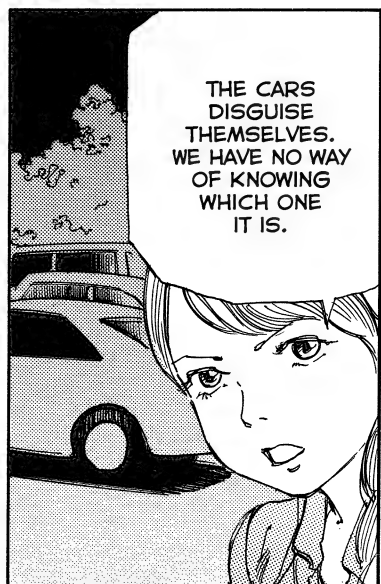
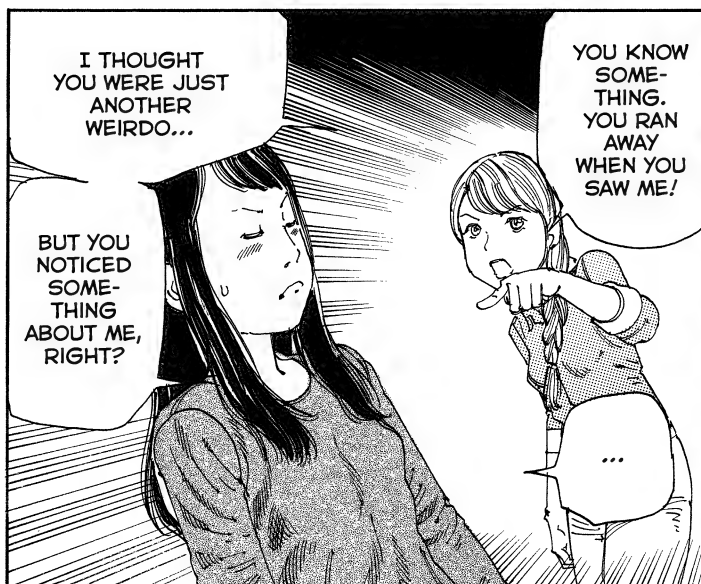
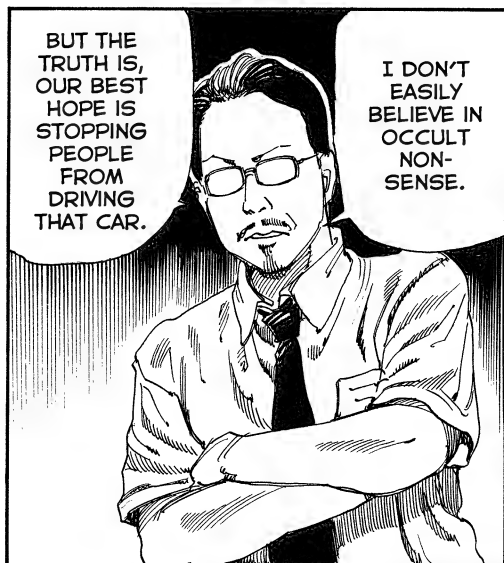


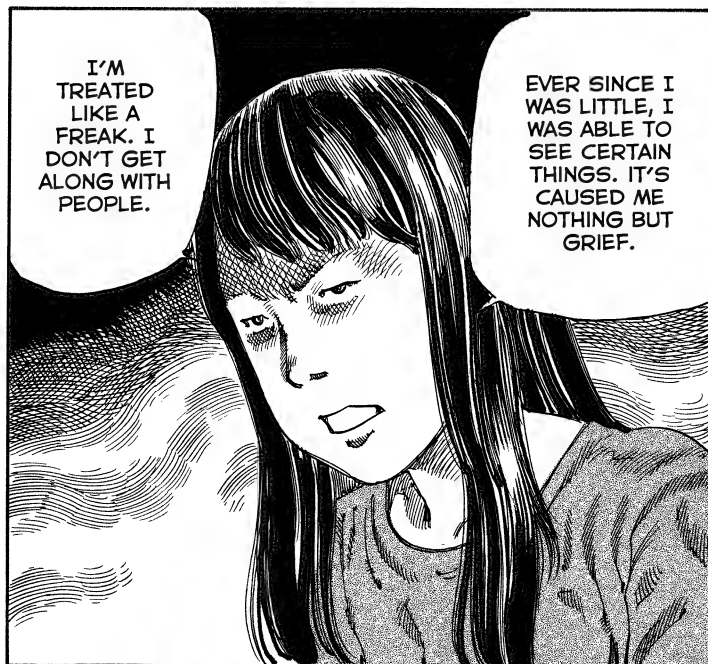






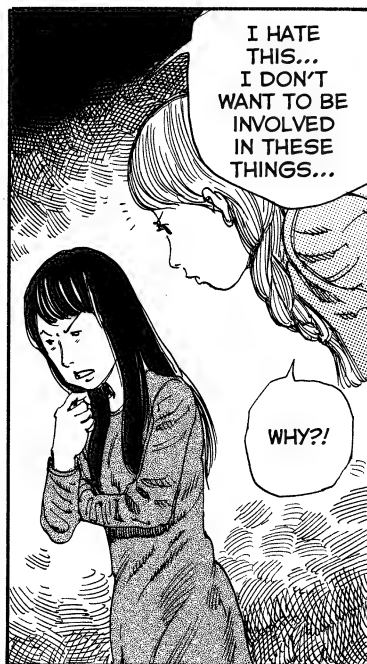






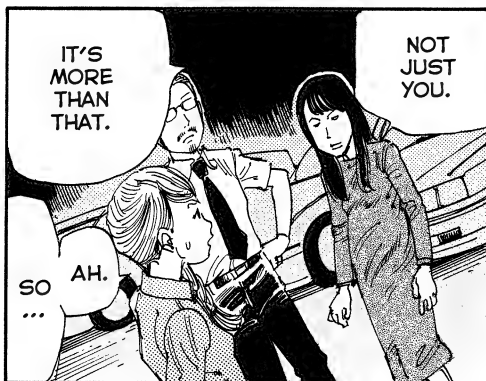
I'M
TREATED
LIKE A
FREAK. I
DON'T GET
ALONG WITH
PEOPLE.

EVER SINCE I
WAS LITTLE, I
WAS ABLE TO
SEE CERTAIN
THINGS. IT'S
CAUSED ME
NOTHING BUT
GRIEF.



I HATE
THIS...
I DON'T
WANT TO BE
INVOLVED
IN THESE
THINGS...

WHY?!



IT'S
MORE
THAN
THAT.

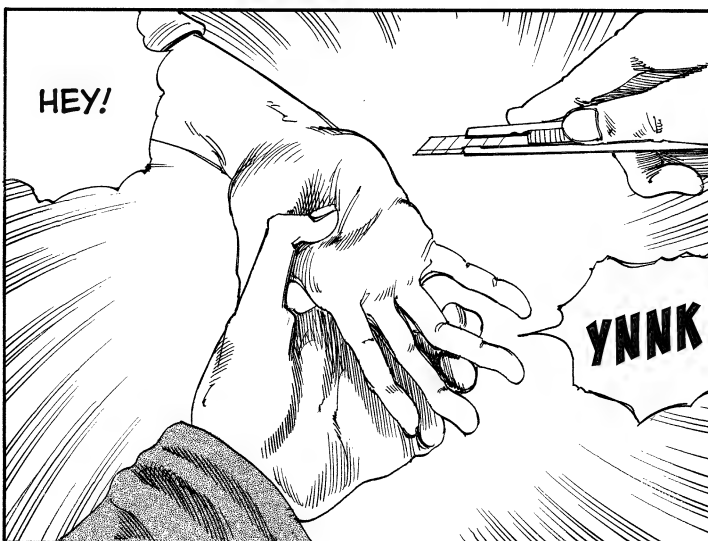
NOT
JUST
YOU.

SO
AH.
...



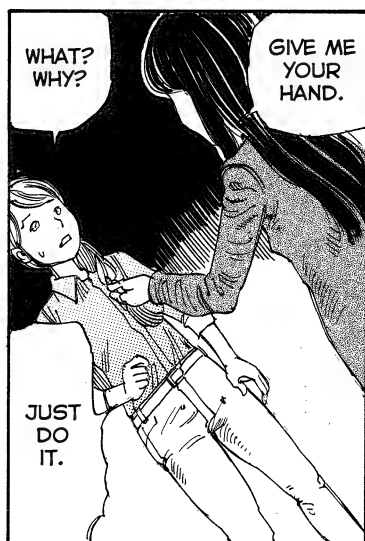
DO YOU
SEE
SOME-
THING
WHEN YOU
LOOK AT
ME?

THAT...
I...



HEY!

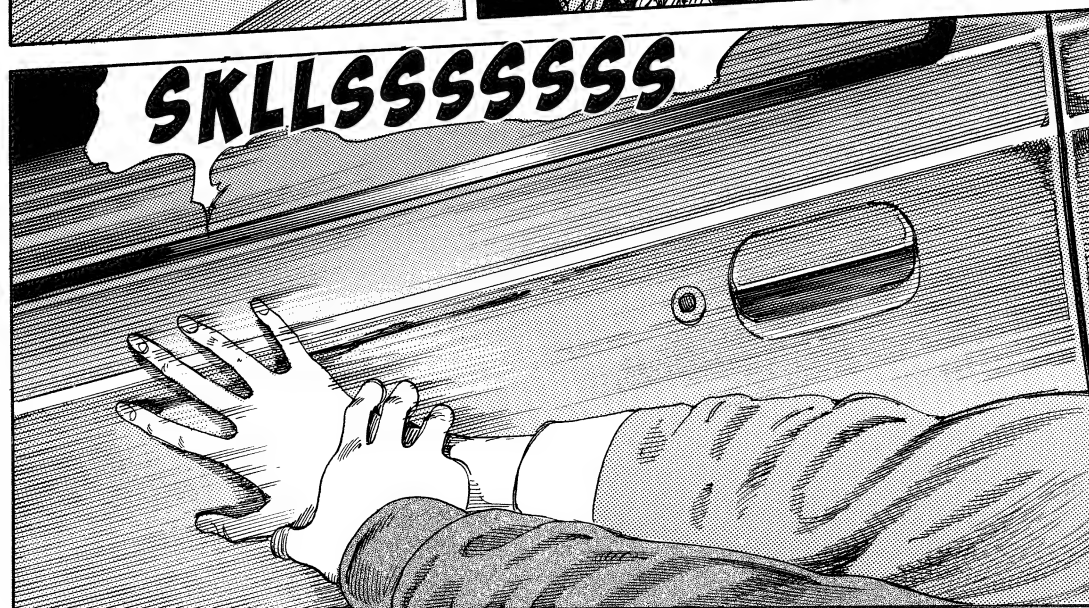
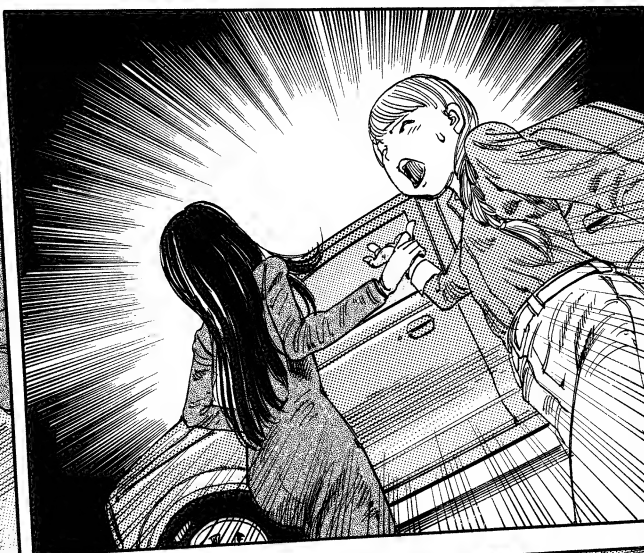
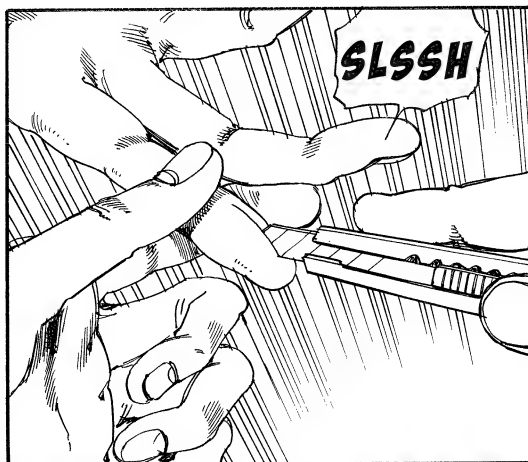
YNNK

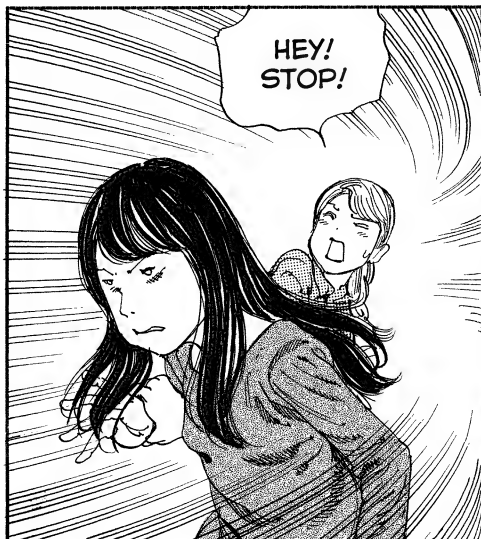


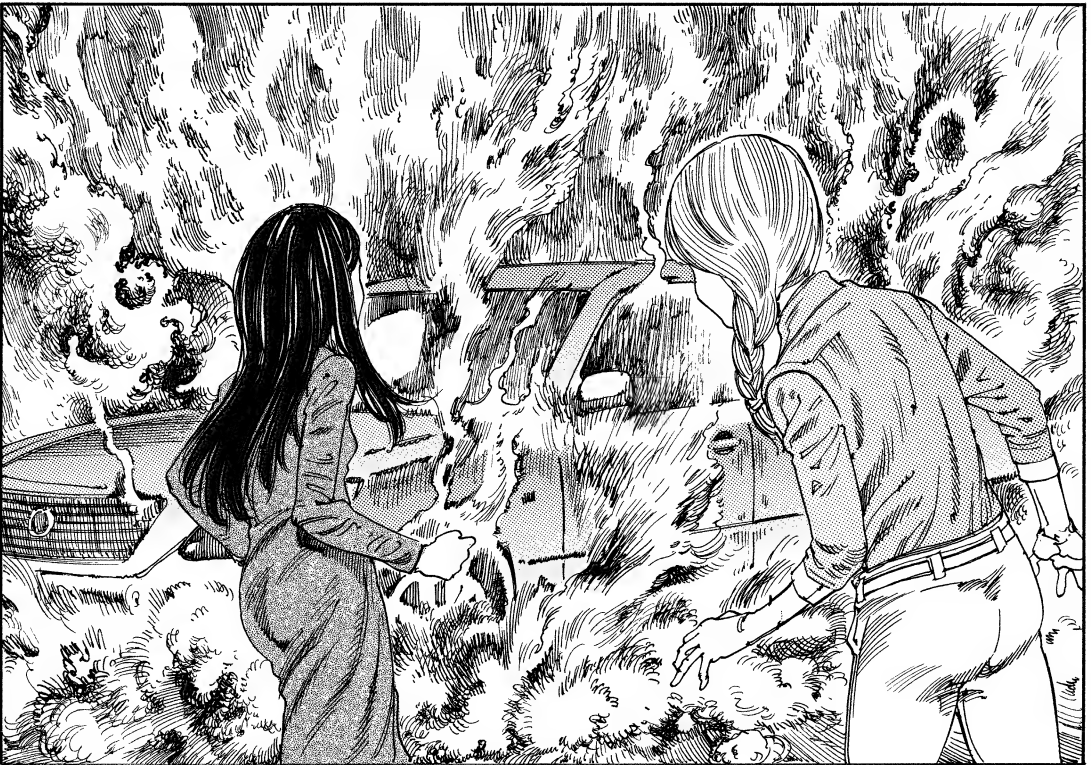
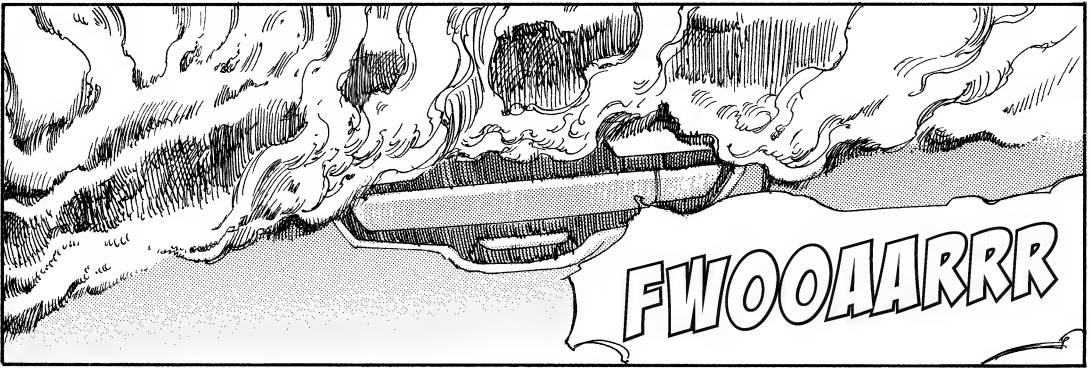
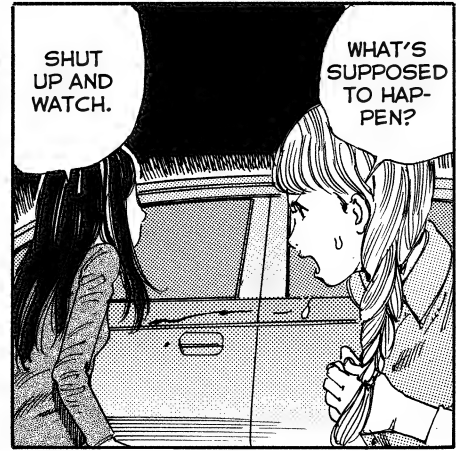
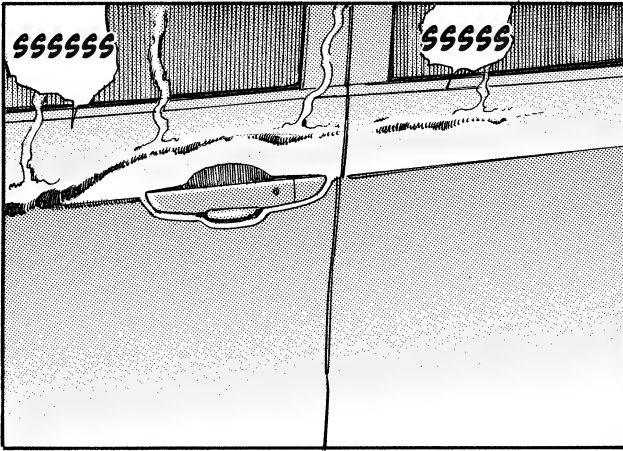
WHAT?
WHY?

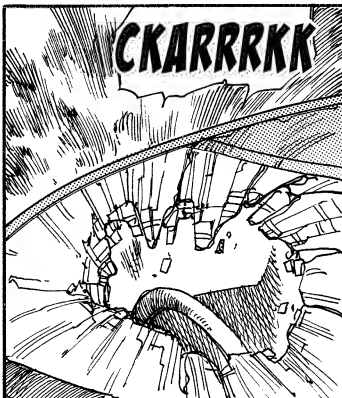
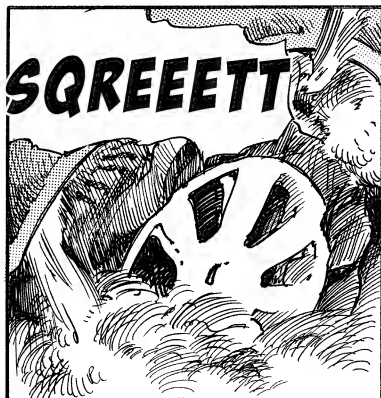
GIVE ME
YOUR
HAND.

JUST
DO
IT.









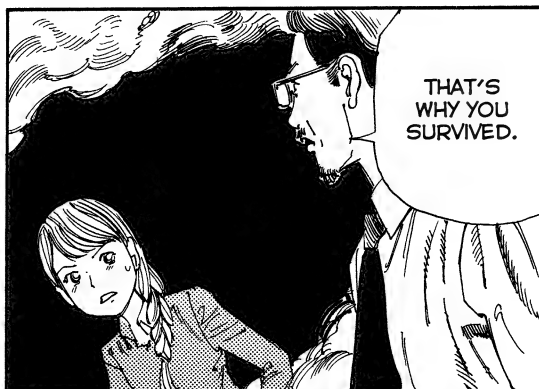


PUT SIMPLY,
THESE
THINGS
DON'T
LIKE YOUR
BLOOD.

IT'S DIFFICULT
TO EXPLAIN,
BUT YOU HAVE
A UNIQUE
PHYSIOLOGY...



THEY'RE A
KIND OF
VAMPIRE.



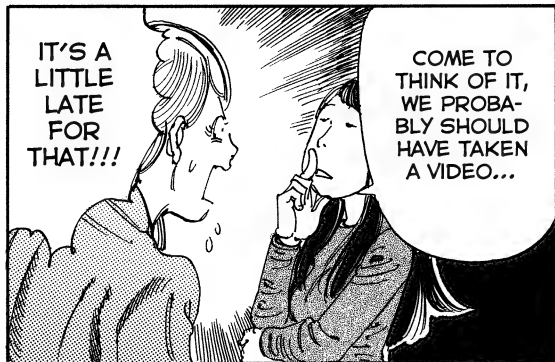
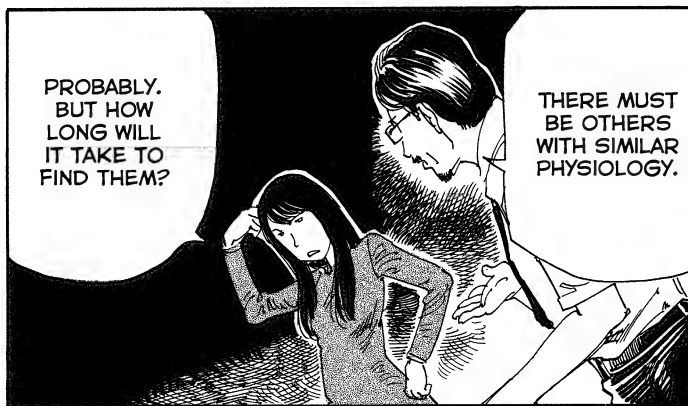
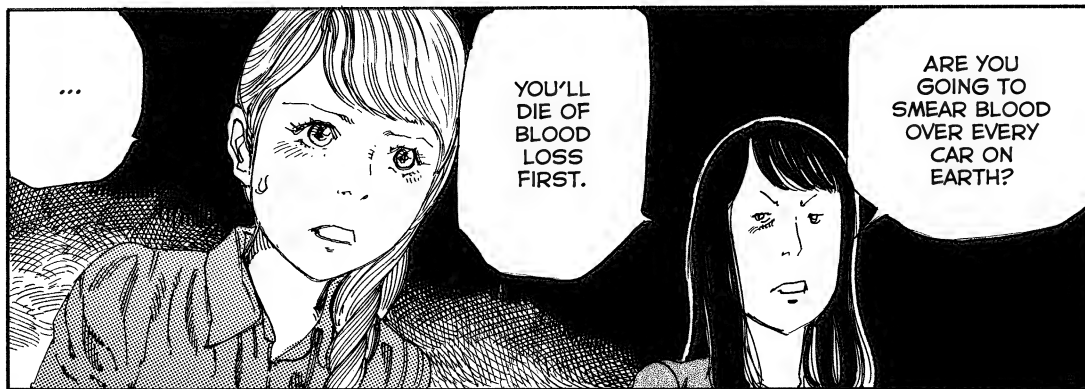
THAT'S
WHY YOU
SURVIVED.



IN THE PAST,
I ONLY SAW
THEM OCCA-
SIONALLY.

CARS INVOLVED
IN FATAL ACCI-
DENTS CANNOT
FORGET THE
TASTE OF HUMAN
BLOOD. THEY
RETURN TO THIS
WORLD SEEKING
MORE.

BUT
RECENTLY
I'VE SEEN A
LOT MORE
MIXED IN
WITH REGU-
LAR CARS. I
IMAGINE THE
NUMBER OF
VICTIMS WILL
CONTINUE TO
INCREASE.



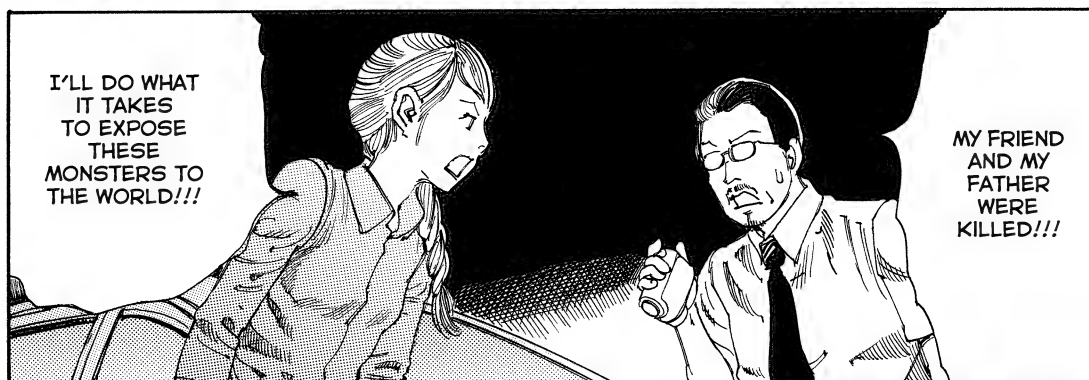


MAKE
SURE
YOU GET
A VIDEO!

I DON'T
HAVE ANY
CHOICE.

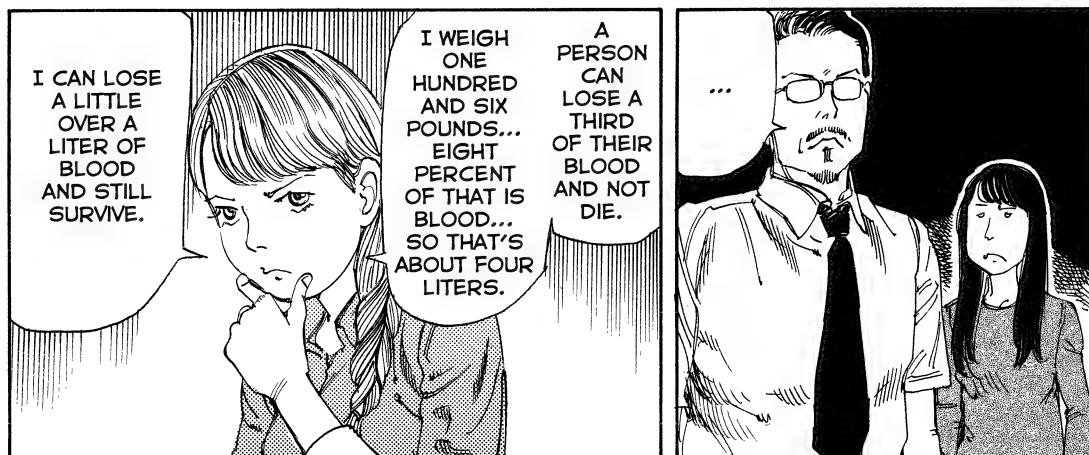
ARE YOU
CRAZY? EVEN
IF THERE ARE
ANY MORE IN
HERE...

I KNOW
YOU'RE
BRAVE...
BUT I
CAN'T LET
YOU RISK
YOUR LIFE.



I'LL DO WHAT
IT TAKES
TO EXPOSE
THESE
MONSTERS TO
THE WORLD!!!

MY FRIEND
AND MY
FATHER
WERE
KILLED!!!

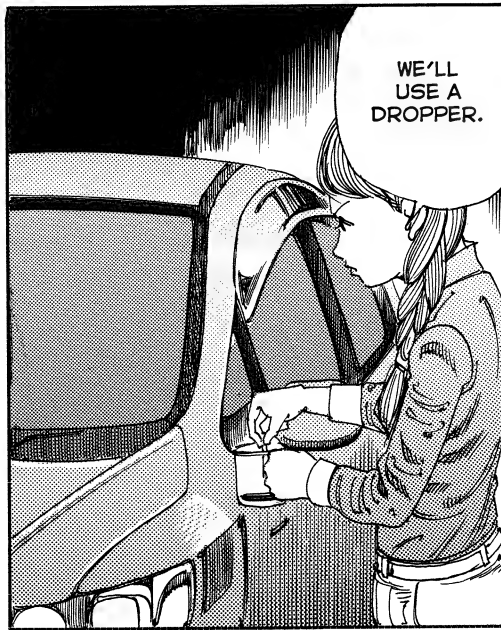
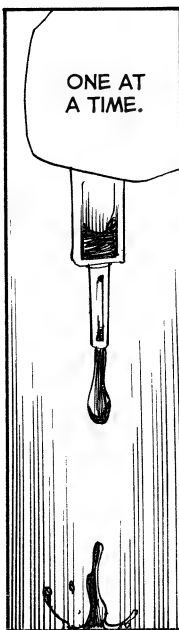
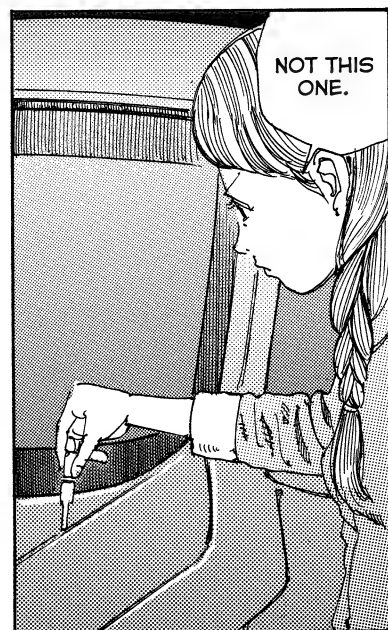
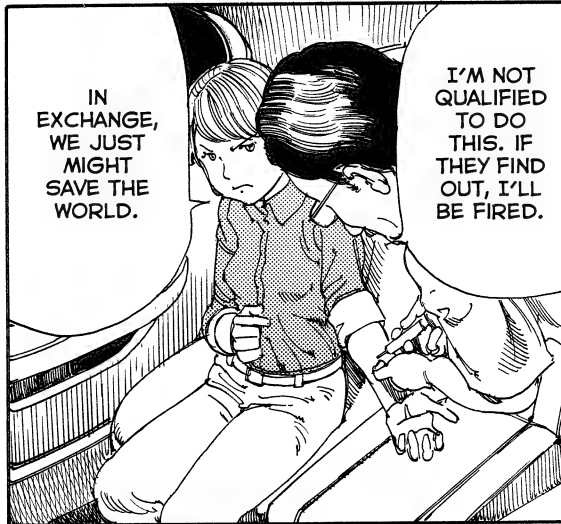
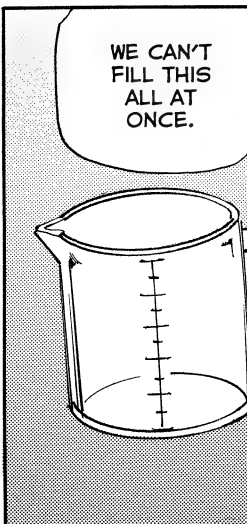
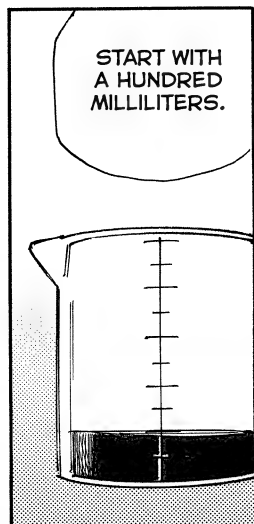
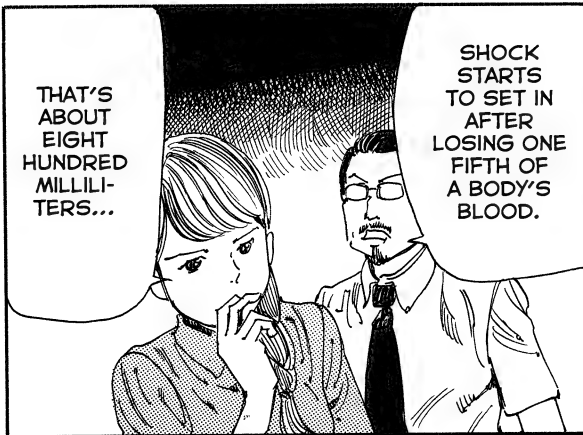
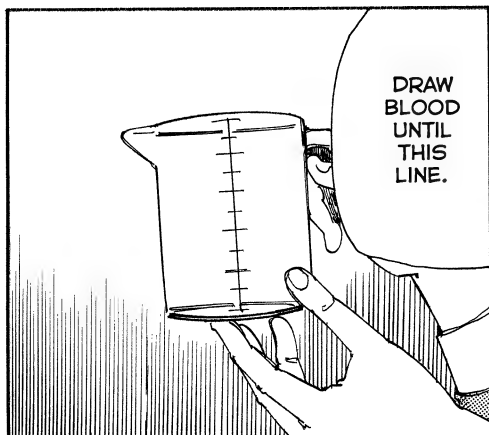


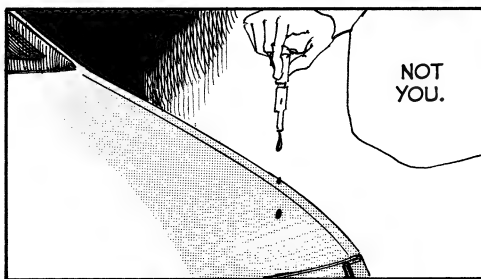
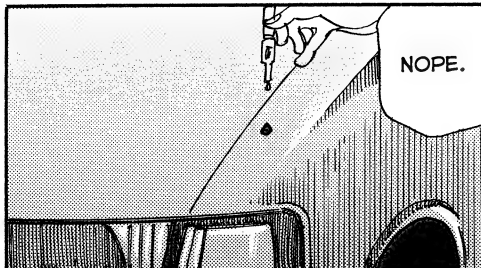
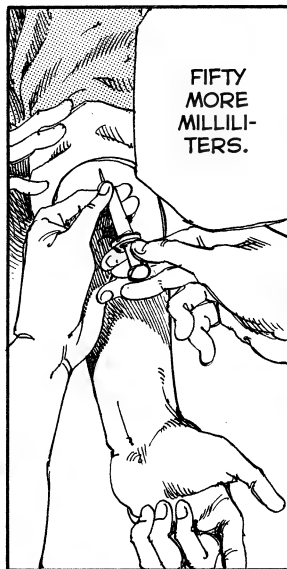
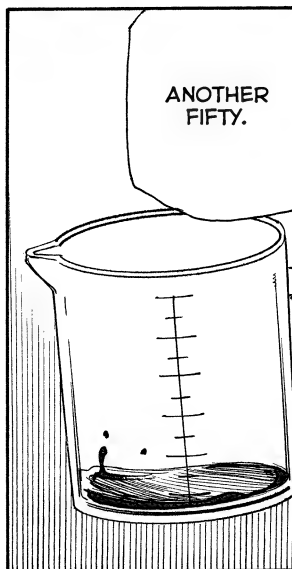
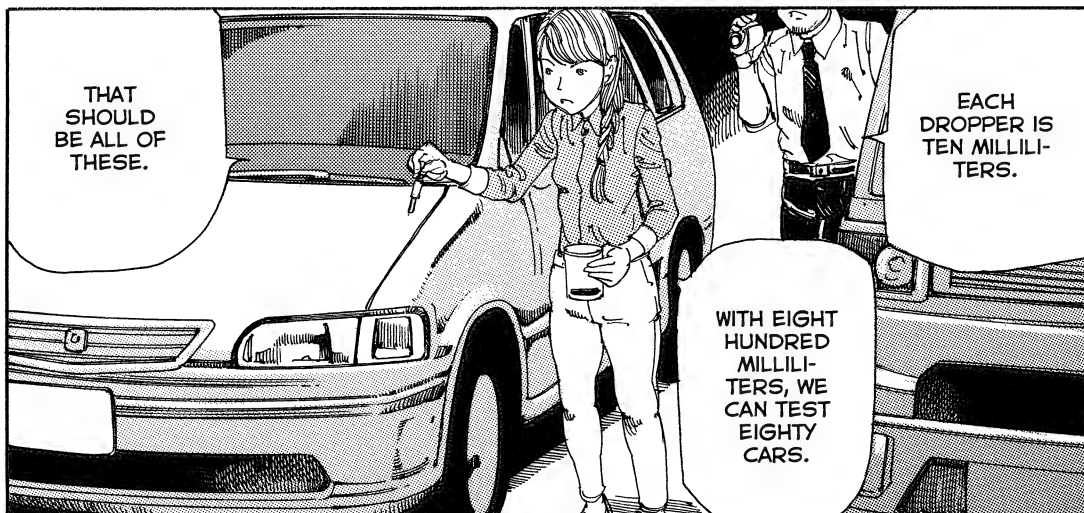
I CAN LOSE
A LITTLE
OVER A
LITER OF
BLOOD
AND STILL
SURVIVE.

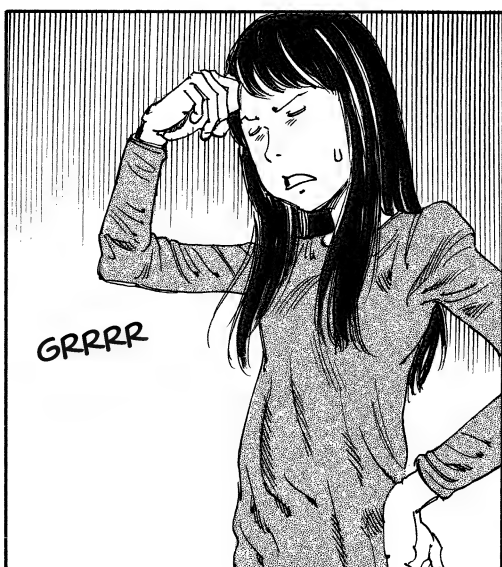
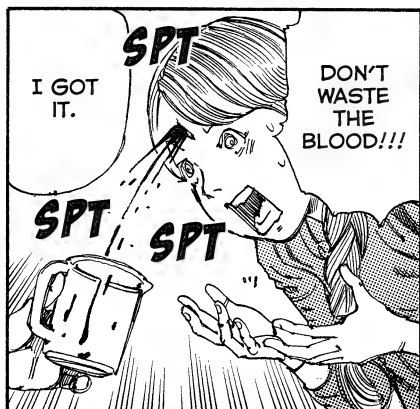
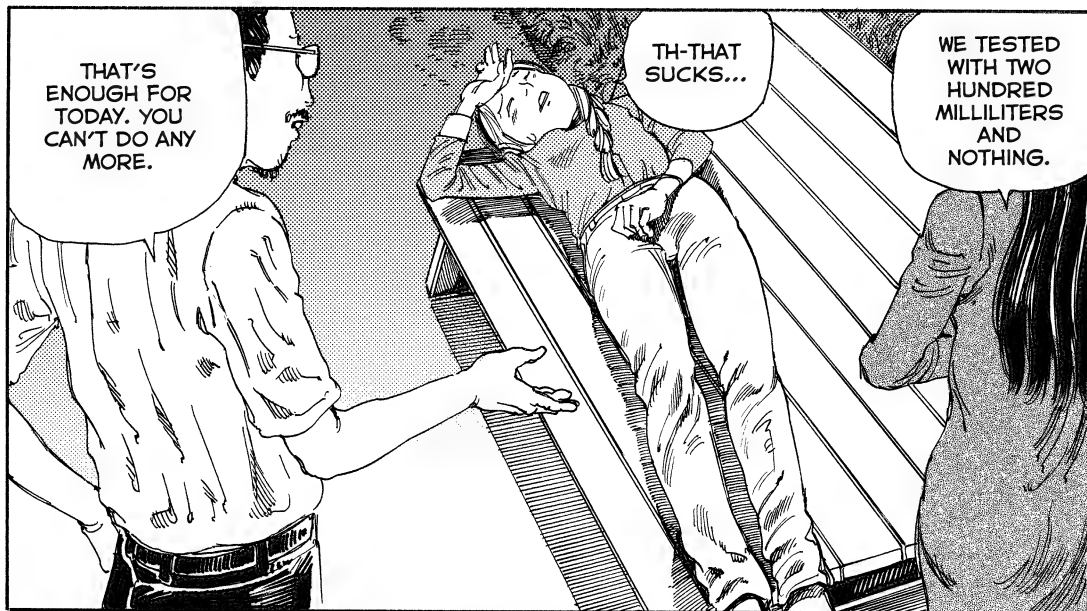
I WEIGH
ONE
HUNDRED
AND SIX
POUNDS...
EIGHT
PERCENT
OF THAT IS
BLOOD...
SO THAT'S
ABOUT FOUR
LITERS.

A
PERSON
CAN
LOSE A
THIRD
OF THEIR
BLOOD
AND NOT
DIE.

...

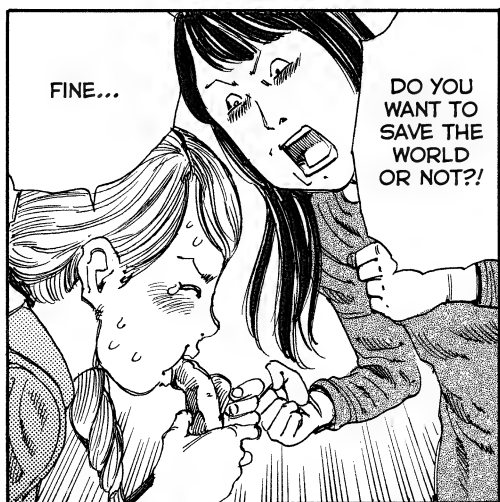
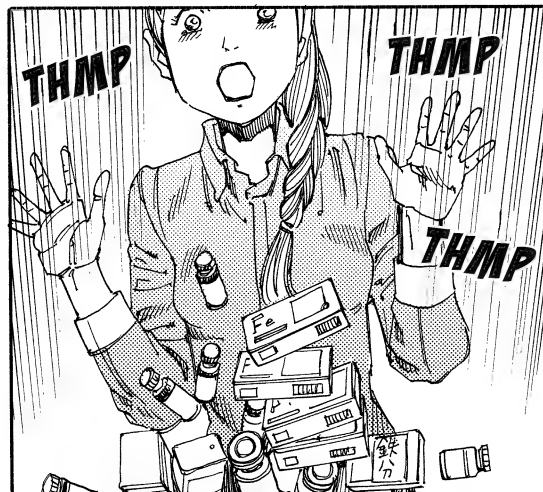






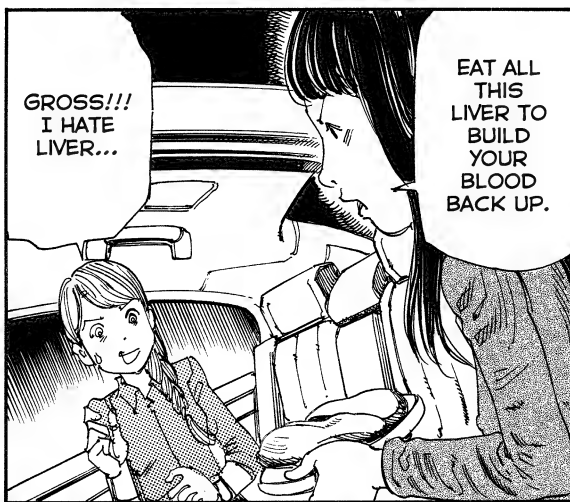


NUTRITION
FIRST. I
GOT ALL
THAT FOR
YOU.



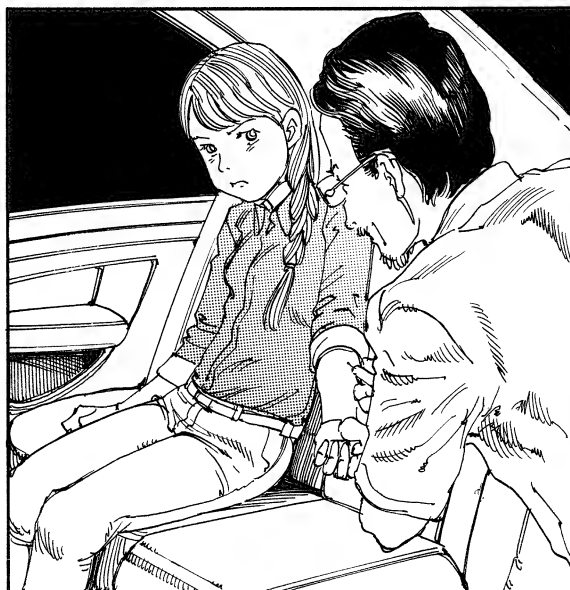
FINE...

DO YOU
WANT TO
SAVE THE
WORLD
OR NOT?!

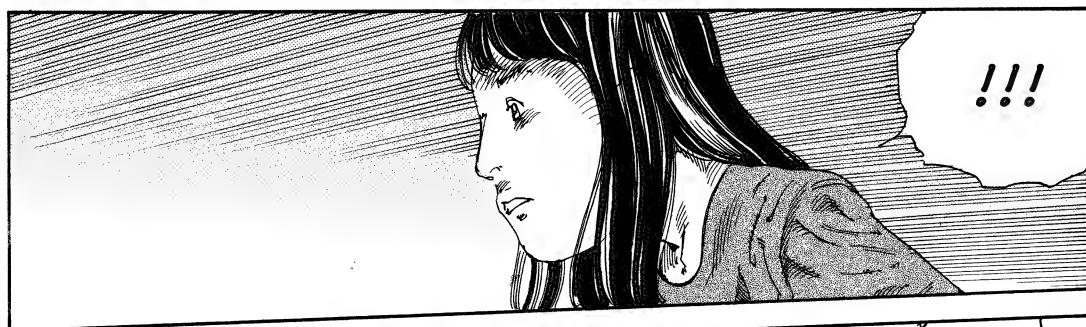
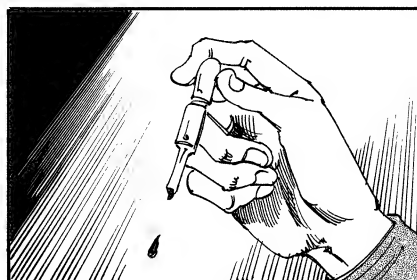
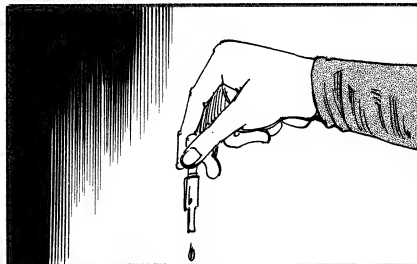


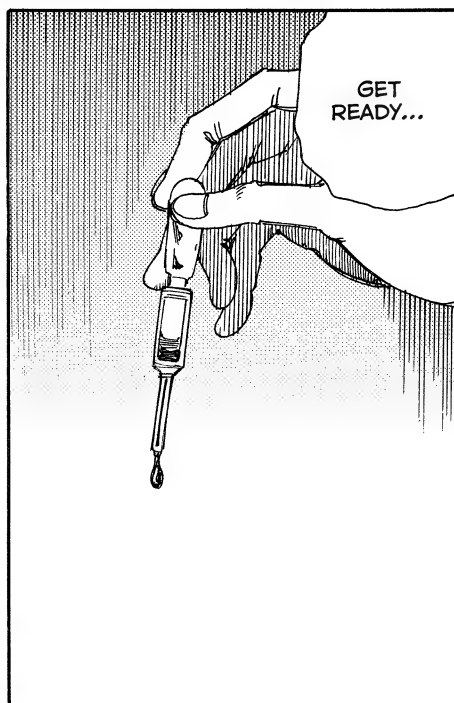
GROSS!!!
I HATE
LIVER...

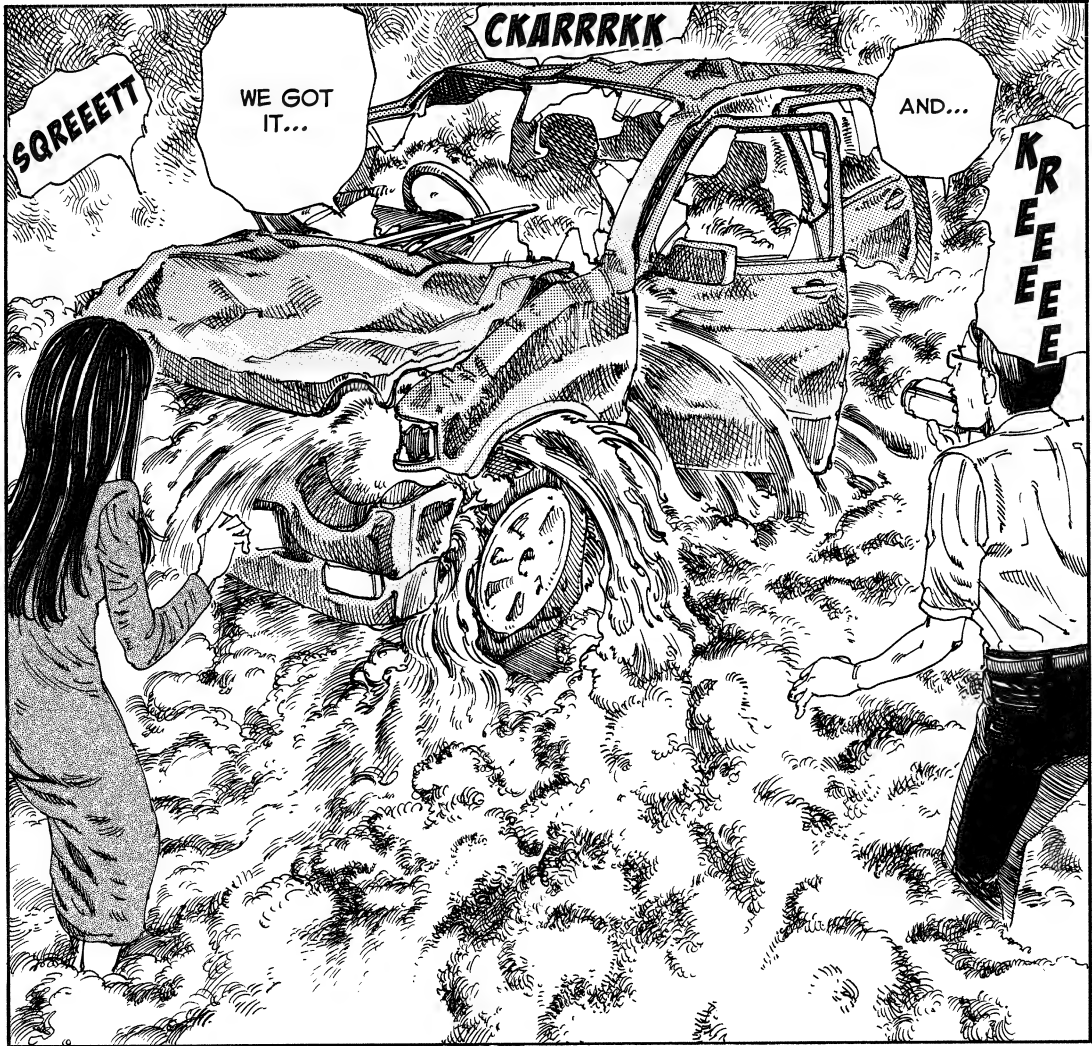
EAT ALL
THIS
LIVER TO
BUILD
YOUR
BLOOD
BACK UP.

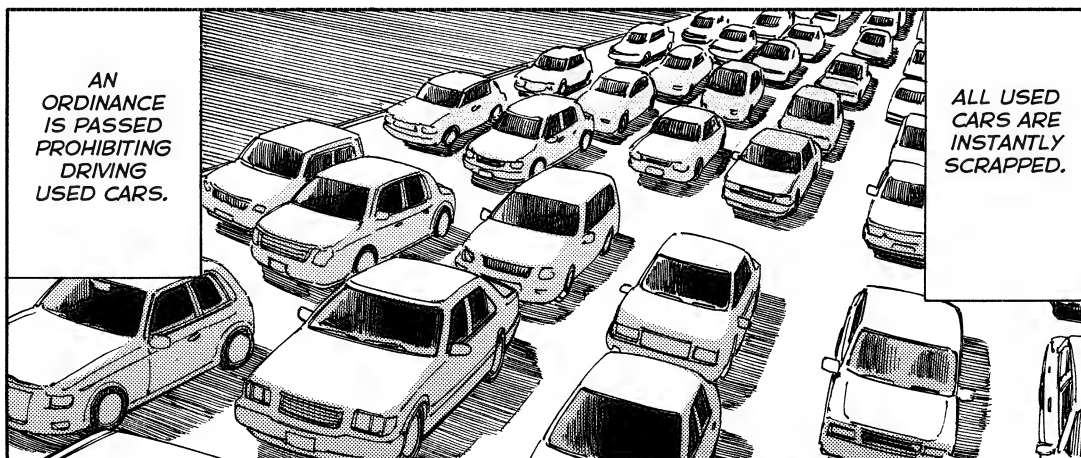


WE'VE TAKEN
TWO HUN-
DRED SO
FAR... YOU
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO GIVE
ANOTHER
HUNDRED.



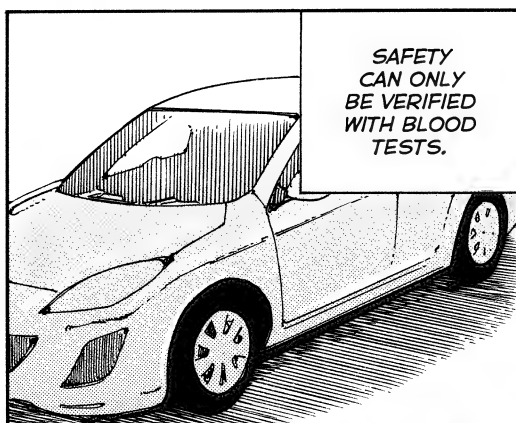




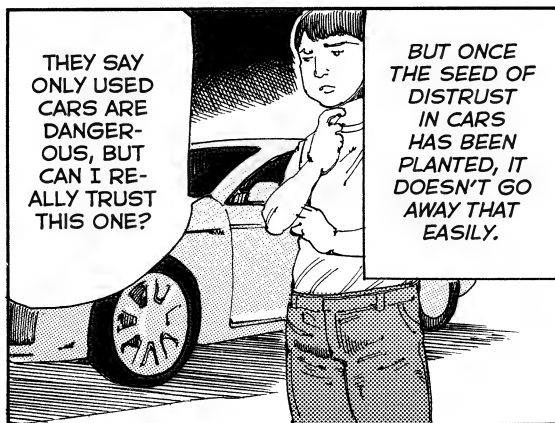


AN
ORDINANCE
IS PASSED
PROHIBITING
DRIVING
USED CARS.

ALL USED
CARS ARE
INSTANTLY
SCRAPPED.

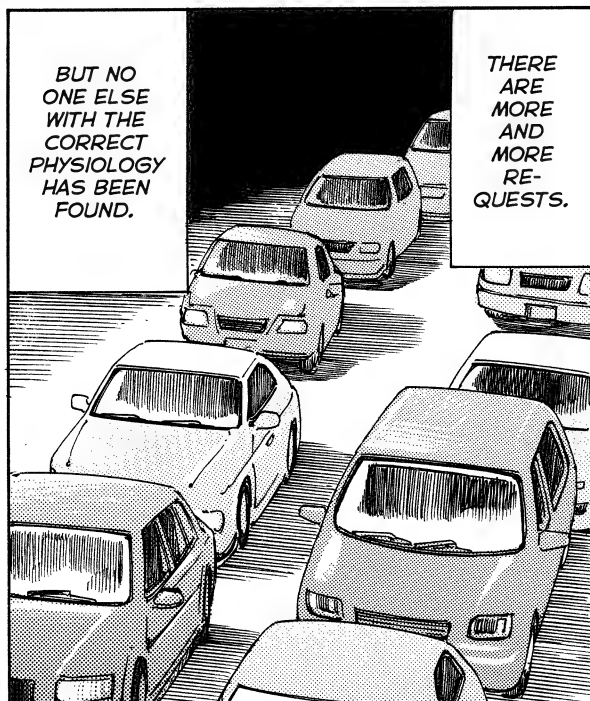


SAFETY
CAN ONLY
BE VERIFIED
WITH BLOOD
TESTS.



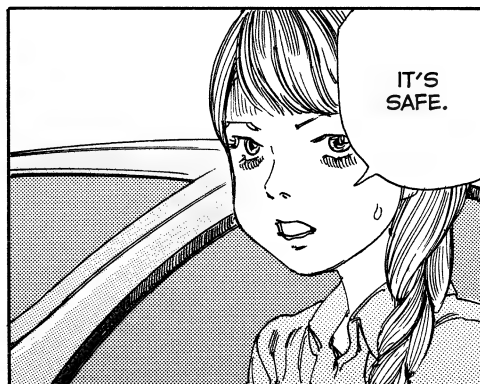
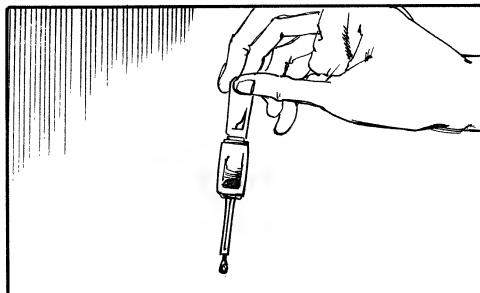
THEY SAY
ONLY USED
CARS ARE
DANGER-
OUS, BUT
CAN I RE-
ALLY TRUST
THIS ONE?

BUT ONCE
THE SEED OF
DISTRUST
IN CARS
HAS BEEN
PLANTED, IT
DOESN'T GO
AWAY THAT
EASILY.

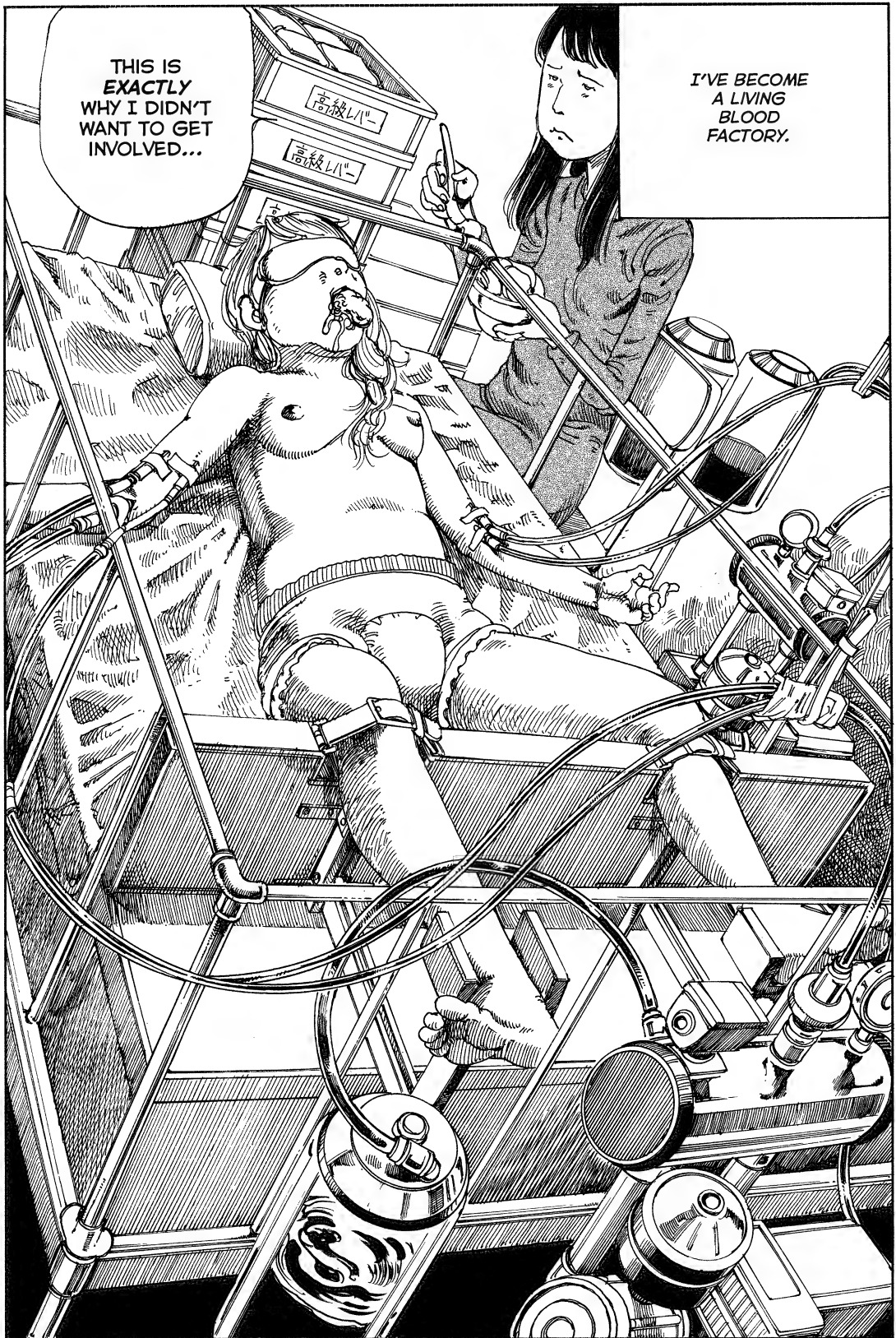


BUT NO
ONE ELSE
WITH THE
CORRECT
PHYSIOLOGY
HAS BEEN
FOUND.

THERE
ARE
MORE
AND
MORE
RE-
QUESTS.



IT'S
SAFE.





EPISODE 1: LABYRINTH QUARTET

Four imprisoned women with the same face try to solve the mystery of their capture while evading the pursuit of a murderer. The ending feels a bit like an inside joke. However, I hope I properly explained the reason for gathering these women with the same faces and the mysterious structure of the room. If you question whether there truly exists people with the same face, even if they have different make-up and hairstyles, well... please accept the meta-excuse that it is well known manga artists can only draw a few variations of female faces. In a manga with many women characters, it would be strange if they all had the same hairstyle and clothes. Because then you'd realize there are only two or three different facial patterns.



EPISODE 2: CURSE ROOM

The idea for "Labyrinth Quartet" started with the final punchline. That made it easy to come up with the title and story. But "Curse Room" was trial and error. It started in a cursed room, which is common in ghost stories. I knew it was going to be a zombie story, but everything after that was a blank slate. That's why the plot changes the most out of all the works in this collection. You see, manga is a living thing. George A. Romero established the zombie genre as modern horror with his two films *Night of the Living Dead* and *Dawn of the Dead*. Since then, an unprecedented number of zombie films have been made. With the comedy *Brain Dead*, it seemed like zombie films had run out of ideas. But more and more films kept being made and now it is an established genre. Movies, games, and manga are full of zombies, making it extremely difficult to create new zombie stories these days.



EPISODE 3: FAMILY PORTRAIT

When the memory area of the brain is destroyed by dementia, what happens to the actual memories themselves? If actors and politicians are forgotten, do they also disappear? What if we forget a specific region or country? What happens if the very existence of the Earth is forgotten? Or if we forget the very concept of a planet? It's more of a philosophical question, I know, but once you start thinking about it there is no end. This is unrelated, but I feel like the term "superpowers" isn't used as much in recent manga and novels. Instead, they say "abilities." This can refer to ninja techniques, magic, and even standard physical prowess. It's a convenient term.



EPISODE 4: BLOOD HARVEST

In this story, it is never revealed why the main character has her peculiar physiology. I thought about having the main character die in a traffic accident and not realize it, but then I realized that would be almost the same premise as "Curse Room." So, I decided to force a black humor unhappy ending. I thought the story started out strong, with her waking up to find a friend crushed in the passenger seat. It drags in the middle with the detective laying out the investigation, but of the four stories in this collection, this one leaves the most lingering questions. For example, who is the used car dealer? Also, the principle behind the resurrection of the cars is unclear. I left these things ambiguous because I think horror works better when left unexplained.

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From the brilliant and twisted mind of manga artist Shintaro Kago comes a new collection of short stories showcasing skin-crawling suspense, visceral body horror, and absurdist humor.

"LABYRINTH QUARTET"

Four identical young women trapped in an eerie building must solve the mystery of why they've been gathered there.

"CURSE ROOM"

A plucky health care aide is tasked with keeping zombies pampered, lest they go on a brain-eating rampage.

"FAMILY PORTRAIT"

People throughout town are strangely disappearing without a trace, and the key to it all may be a senile, perverted old man.

"BLOOD HARVEST"

When gruesomely mangled bodies are found in pristine cars, it appears something sinister lurks within these masses of glass and steel.

